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Business Lease◊: $77/Mo., 36 Mos.
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Light Weight, Light Price

- 13.3" XGA Active Matrix Display
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- harman/kardon HK-195 Speakers
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- MS IntelliMouse

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Business Lease◊: $64/Mo., 36 Mos.

E•VALUE CODE: 05540-590318

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- Turtle Beach Montego II A3D Sound Card
- ACS-495 Dolby Surround Sound Speakers with Subwoofer
- MS Office 97 SBE plus Encarta Encyclopedia
- Iomega 100MB ZIP BUILT-IN Drive
- Logitech MouseMan Wheel

$2899

Personal Lease°: $108/Mo., 36 Mos.ø

E•VALUE CODE: 05540-500328b

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- 17" (16.0" viewable, .26dp) Trinitron 1000HS Monitor
- 8MB ATI XPERT 98D 3D AGP Graphics Card
- 4.8X DVD-ROM Drive
- Turtle Beach Montego A3D 64V Sound Card
- ACS-295 Speakers with Subwoofer
- Iomega 100MB ZIP BUILT-IN Drive
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- ***NEW* Power Game Pack‡**

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Personal Lease°: $86/Mo., 36 Mos.

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- 8MB ATI XPERT 98D 3D AGP Graphics Card
- 40 Max≈ Variable CD-ROM Drive
- Yamaha XG 64V Wavetable Sound
- harman/kardon HK-195 Speakers
- MS Works Suite 99 with Money 99 Basic
- MS IntelliMouse
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- ATI 8MB 3D AGP Graphics
- 32X Max^ Variable CD-ROM Drive
- Yamaha XG 64V Wavetable Sound
- harman/kardon HK-195 Speakers
- MS Works Suite 99 with Money 99 Basic
- Logitech First Mouse+ Wheel

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Personal Lease°: $50/Mo., 36 Mos.

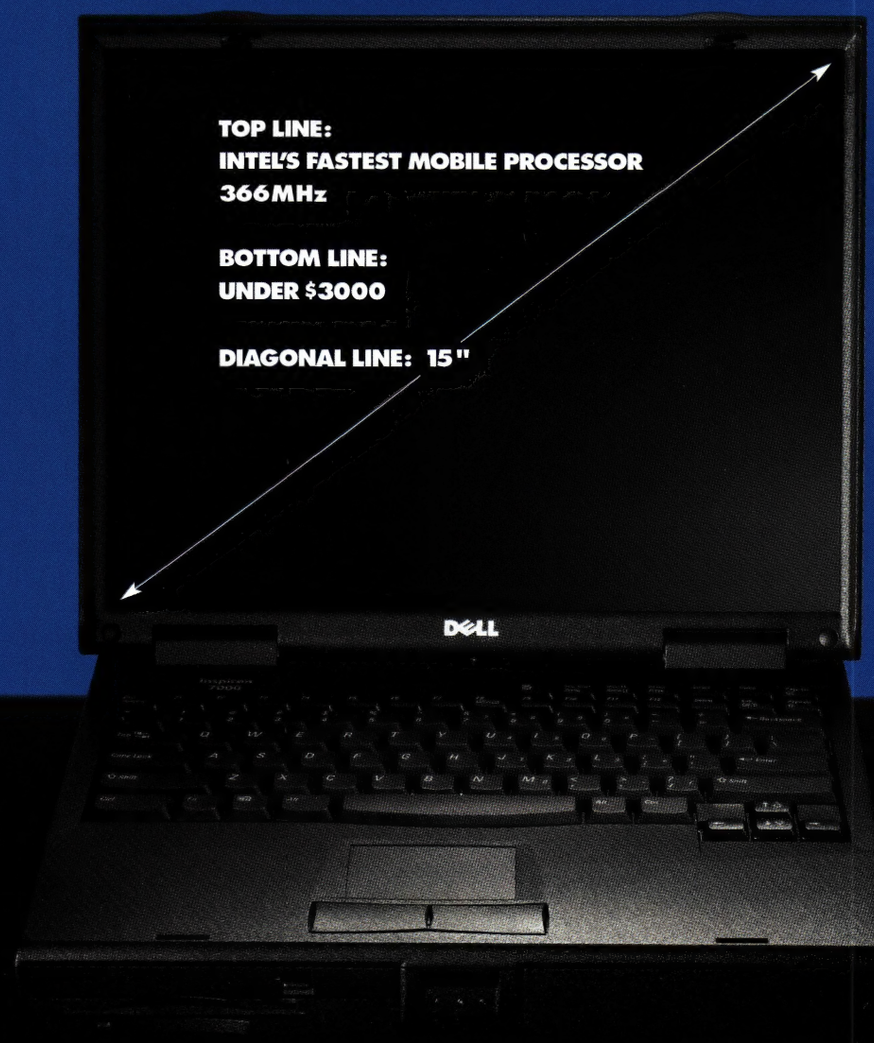
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- 40X Max℠ Variable CD-ROM Drive
- Turtle Beach Montego A3D 64V Sound Card
- harman/kardon HK-195 Speakers
- MS® Office 97 SBE plus Bookshelf (Ask about Our *FREE* MS Office 2000 Upgrade Offer); McAfee VirusScan
- MS Windows® 98
- Dell QuietKey® Keyboard
- MS IntelliMouse®
- 3-Year Limited Warranty†
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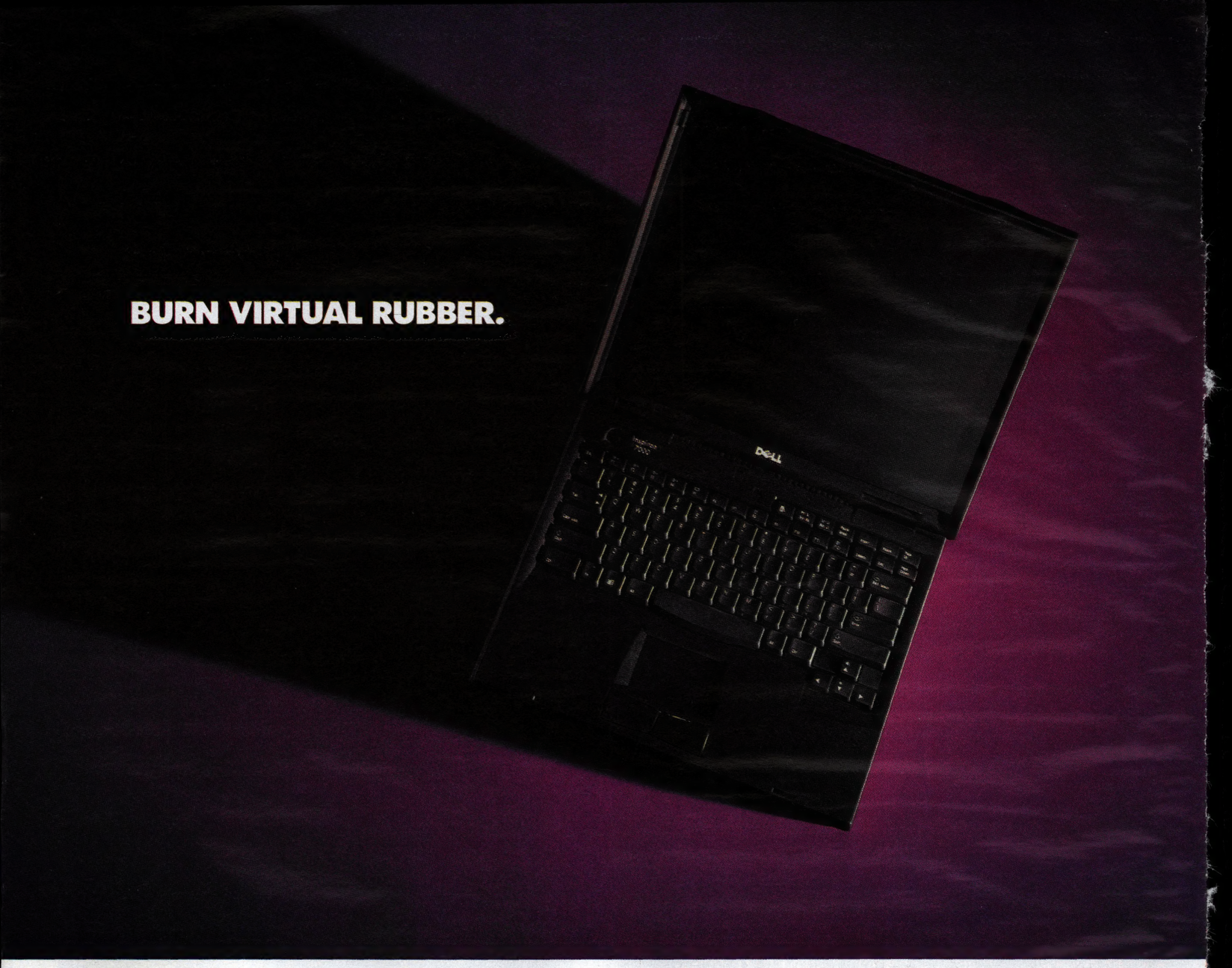
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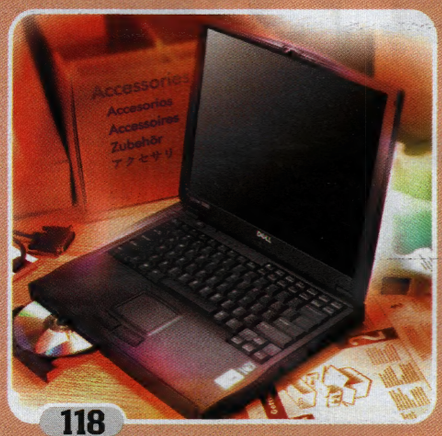
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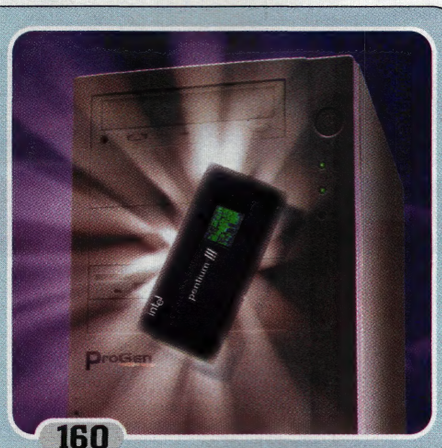
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Stop here first for choice buying advice and information. "Value Line" illustrates how much PC you can get for a given price. Plus, our editors pick this month's Best Buys.

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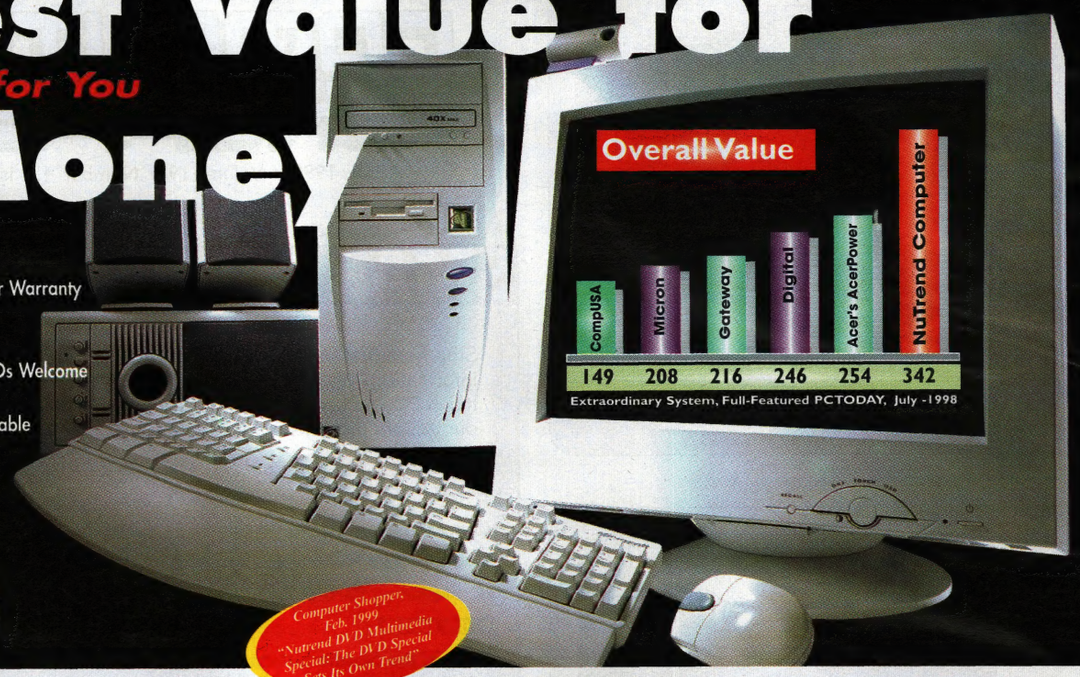
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pentium® II PROCESSOR



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FROM THE EDITOR

A New Look for Spring

At *Computer Shopper*, our mission is to help you get more for your technology dollar. To do that, we must keep pace with the ever-changing computer market. Today, the Web has become integral toPC buying—as a place to find information, as a place to purchase, and even as a reason to buy a PC.


Janice Chen, Editor

To deliver on our promise in this Web-centric world, we've reorganized, with new sections and departments. The changes should help you find great values whether you're shopping on the Web, doing research before hitting a store, or flipping through the magazine and dialing toll-free numbers.

Our sections now comprise **Smart Shopper**, **Desktops**, **Mobile**, **Hardware** (components and peripherals), **Networks**, **e-Shopping**, **Technology**, **Software**, and **Reference**. These categories match up with our Web site, computershopper.com, and coverage of a given product type is found in one section, making navigation through our big book easier. If you're in the market for a graphics card, for example, you'll find all the relevant articles in **Hardware,** including comparative roundups, individual product reviews, buying guides, and how-to-buy tips. And to help your online research, most articles include "Active Links" that point to useful Web content.

Regular readers will notice some new faces among our opinion columnists, now located in **Smart Shopper**. In addition to columns from editor-in-chief John Blackford, contributing editor Michael Slater, and market-research guru Aaron Goldberg, you'll find two new columns. Executive editor Abigail Crane uncovers the true values in the PC marketplace, while technology editor Stephanie Izarek keeps up with the latest tech intelligence. And moving up from the former Tech Section is the inimitable John Dvorak, whose Flashback column looks back to the early days of PCs.

To help narrow your buying short list, we've initiated Best Buy editors' picks awards. Each month, *Shopper* editors lend their expertise by choosing the top products we've reviewed that month, basing their decisions on performance, price, engineering, ergonomics, usability, and service and support. Also new, "The Value Line" illustrates top PC values in a given price range, whether you're looking to spend $500 or $3,500 on your next system or notebook.

To meet the needs of those who use their computers to shop, we've introduced **e-Shopping**. Turn to page 277 to find the latest trends in e-commerce, along with mini-reviews of top PC buying and resource sites. In addition, we check out sites in categories such as financial services, travel and leisure, consumer electronics, and books and music.

You'll still find in-depth product evaluations throughout the magazine. Look in **Desktops** to get the lowdown on the first Pentium III systems to hit the market, and turn to **Mobile** to find how to get the most notebook on a budget. **Networks** delivers the latest news and reviews, whether your networking needs are LAN- or Internet-based.

Turn to **Software** for end-user software solutions ranging from business applications and Web-based software services to shareware, games, and entertainment. You'll find the solution to your Y2K woes in this month's software roundup.



And don't overlook the **Technology** section, where we watch future trends and technologies that may affect your purchase plans. Faithful readers will recognize "The Hard Edge" as the place where Alice and Bill keep everyone honest—as Bill recently said to me, it's "where you can separate the BS from the CS (as in Computer Science)."

However you shop, we've got you covered. Enjoy the issue!

janice_chen@zd.com

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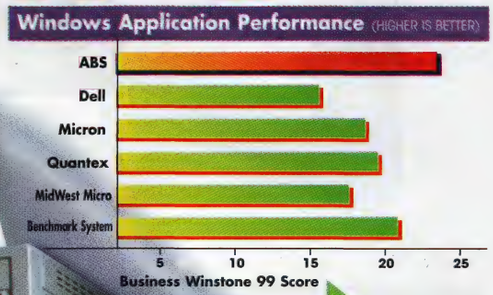
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ABS IS #1

intel inside pentium II

In the March review of Computer Shopper Magazine, **ABS** is ranked #1 in six out of eight benchmark tests. The **ABS** Supreme DVD3 System outperformed systems submitted by **Dell, Micron, Quantex, Midwest Micro, Aberdeen, TigerDirect,** and **Zenon.**



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Computer Shopper March 1999

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~Stephen W. Plain
Computer Shopper March 1

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~Owen Linderholm
Windows Magazine March 1999

#1 in Business Graphics WinMark 99

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~CNET Computers.com
January 1999

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~Daniel A. Begun
Computer Shopper October 1998

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Please turn to page 10 & 11 for more ABS Best Value systems



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ABS SUPREME DVD SYSTEMS

256MB/17.2GB/DVD/19"/56Kbps DVD1

- 256MB PC100 SDRAM/100MHz Front Side Bus
- 17.2GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive (9.0ms)
- 3rd Generation DVD-ROM
- Iomega 100MB Internal Zip Drive w/Disk
- Diamond Viper V550 16MB NVIDIA TNT True 128Bit 2X AGP
- Hardware DVD MPEG2 Decoder Card with TV-out
- Digital Color Internet Camera
- Sceptre 19" .26DP 1600x1200 Color Monitor, MPR II
- Creative Labs SoundBlaster Live! Value Sound Card
- Altec Lansing ADA 305 Digital PowerCube Speaker
- 56K V.90 PCI Fax/Modem w/Voice Mail, Full Duplex
- 1.44MB Floppy Drive, High Speed I/O Ports: 2S, 1P, 1G, 2USB
- Microsoft IntelliMouse w/ABS Mouse Pad
- Qtronix Scorpius Windows 98 Netmedia Keyboard
- ATX Mid Tower (Large Tower Optional)
- Microsoft Windows '98 w/USB Support, Manual & CD
- Free Software: Grolier's Encyclopedia, Corel WordPerfect Suite 8 Professional

Intel® Pentium® III Processor w/512KB Cache

500MHz **$2589** #4110

450MHz **$ 2359** #4111

Intel® Pentium® II Processor w/512KB Cache

450MHz **$ 2299** #4112

400MHz **$ 2109** #4113

128MB/12.7GB/DVD/19"/56Kbps DVD2

- 128MB PC100 SDRAM/100MHz Front Side Bus
- 12.7GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive
- 3rd Generation DVD-ROM
- Diamond 3Dfx 128-bit Voodoo Banshee 3D AGP Video w/16MB
- ✓Upgrade to ATI 32MB Video Graphic Card @ $49
- Creative Labs SoundBlaster PCI128 Sound Card
- Subwoofer Sound System w/Microphone
- 19" .26DP 1600x1200 Color Monitor, MPR II
- 56K V.90 PCI Fax/Modem w/Voice Mail, Full Duplex
- 1.44MB Floppy Drive, High Speed I/O Ports: 2S, 1P, 1G
- ABS 3 Button Mouse & ABS Mouse Pad
- ABS 104 Key Win '98 Keyboard
- ATX Mid Tower (Desktop Case Optional)
- Microsoft Windows '98 w/USB Support, Manual & CD
- Free Software: Grolier's Encyclopedia, Corel WordPerfect Suite 8 Professional
- ✓Add CD-RW Internal Drive @ $249
- ✓Upgrade to LS120 Super Disk Drive @ $69

Intel® Pentium® III Processor w/512KB Cache

500MHz **$2079** #4120

450MHz **$ 1839** #4121

Intel® Pentium® II Processor w/512KB Cache

450MHz **$ 1779** #4122

400MHz **$ 1579** #4123

128MB/10GB/DVD/17"/56Kbps DVD3

- 128MB PC100 SDRAM/100MHz Front Side Bus
- 10GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive
- 3rd Generation DVD-ROM
- Diamond 16MB nVidia TNT True 128Bit 2X AGP Video Card w/DirectX 6.0 and OpenGL
- Hardware DVD MPEG2 Decoder Card with TV-out
- 17" .25DP SVGA 1600x1200NI Monitor, Flat Screen, MPR II
- Creative Labs SoundBlaster PCI128 Sound Card (upgraded from SoundBlaster AWE64)
- Altec Lansing ACS45.1 PowerCube™ Multimedia Subwoofer Speaker System
- 56K V.90 PCI Fax/Modem w/Voice Mail
- 1.44MB Floppy Drive, High Speed I/O Ports: 2S, 1P, 1G
- MS Natural Keyboard & IntelliMouse w/ABS Mouse Pad
- ATX Mid Tower (Desktop Case Optional)
- Microsoft Windows '98 w/USB Support, Manual & CD
- Free Software: Grolier's Encyclopedia, Corel WordPerfect Suite 8.0

Intel® Pentium® III Processor w/512KB Cache

450MHz **$1859** #4131

Intel® Pentium® II Processor w/512KB Cache

450MHz **$ 1799** #4132

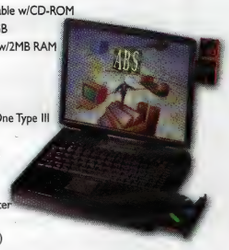
400MHz **$ 1599** #4133

350MHz **$ 1499** #4134

ABS NOTEBOOK

12.1"TFT/32MB/20X iNB1

- 12.1" TFT Display 800X600
- 32MB EDO DIMM Memory upgradable to 128MB
- 20X CD-ROM
- 1.44MB Floppy Drive Swappable w/CD-ROM
- Removable Hard Drive 2.0GB
- C&T HiQVideo™ PCI VGA w/2MB RAM
- NiMh Battery 3600 Mah
- 16-bit Stereo Sound
- Built-in Speakers & Mic
- PCMCIA Slots, Two Type II/One Type III
- Ports: 1 MIDI/Game, 1S, 1P, 1PS2 (KB/Mouse), FIR
- Windows '98 preinstalled w/Manual & CD
- Carrying Case and AC Adapter
- 3 Year Limited Warranty (1 Year Parts & 3 Years Labor)



Intel® Pentium® Processor w/MMX Technologh 233MHz

12.1" **$999** #4150

Upgrade to
13.3 " TFT Display 1024X768
Removable Hard Drive 3.0GB
20X CD-ROM
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$1299 #4151

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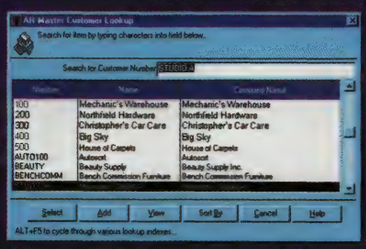
Technical Support: 800.685.3471 General Office: 562.695.8823
9997 Rose Hills Road, Whittier, CA 90601

MasterCard DISCOVER VISA

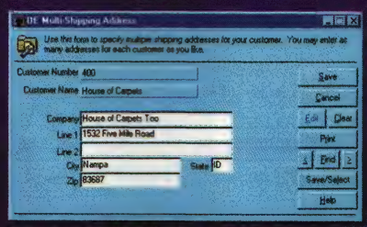
Visit our website www.buyabs.com

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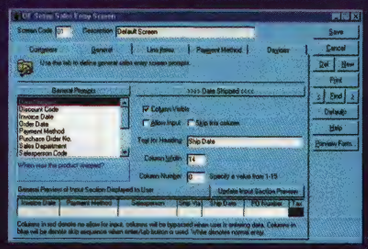
ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE CUSTOM DESIGNED
BY SOMEONE WHO KNOWS WHAT'S BEST FOR YOUR BUSINESS...



Look up existing customers and add new ones on-the-fly.



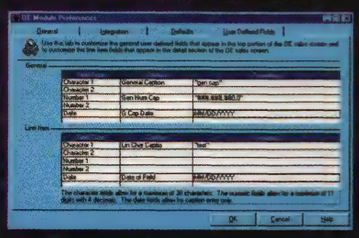
Enter multiple shipping addresses.

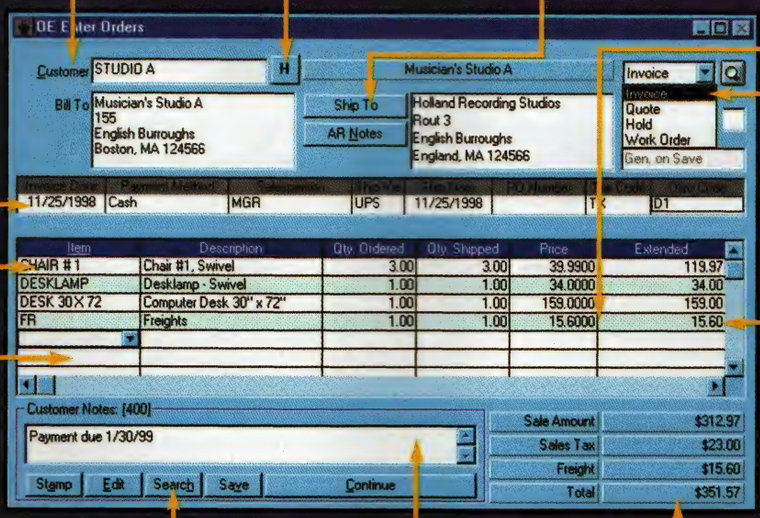


Adjust column widths, rearrange column fields, change names of fields and control security.

View a customer's purchase and payment history.

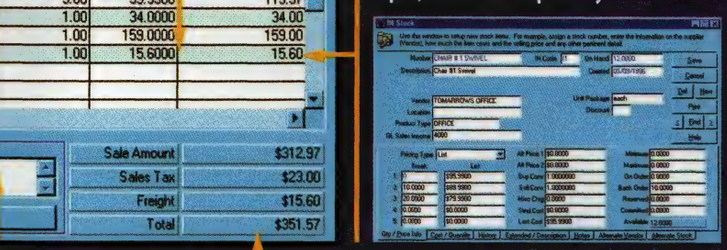
Define your own fields for entering data in the top portion of the OE Sales Screen, and the line item fields for entering data in the detail section.





Enter sales, quotes, work orders and hold orders on one screen.

Extended price is calculated from your inventory definition based on quantity input, or a default quantity of 1.



Fields can be hidden, displayed only (so they can be changed by no one but you) or displayed and left open to change.

Access any previously written note by searching for specific words or dates.

Keep notes on this sale, and keep them hidden or displayed.

Detail total, sales tax, freight and total due calculated automatically.

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You know what you need and want in an accounting software package. Based on 17 years of experience developing accounting software that fits the needs of businesses like yours, Cougar Mountain Accounting® for Windows® was developed with your input and from your point of view. Cougar Mountain Accounting® for Windows® offers you the flexibility to tailor the software to fit your needs. That means your books work the way your company works, not the way a software company thinks they should. You get the information that you need, that your Accountant needs and that Uncle Sam needs, and it is right the very first time. Unlike other software companies, we run our company with our software every day!



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- Data Exchange

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Take it from the Experts

"The Best Overall Value."

Please turn to page 8 for more ABS Best Value systems

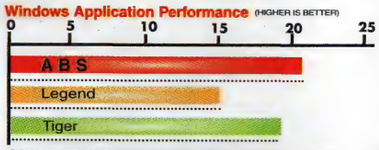
Take it from the Experts
Computer Shopper *Sub-$1,000 PCs*

"...The ABS Supreme DVD 4 delivers some of the best specs in this feature and adds strong performance, DVD compatibility...the only system to bump up RAM to 64MB, an upgrade that helped it achieved a Winstone rating that is virtually identical to that of 300MHz Pentium II...When it comes to 3-D performance, no other system came close to matching the ABS's chart-topping result..."

Take it from the Experts
Computer Shopper *Best PCs Under $1,499*

"...Solid performance, respectable components ABS Computer Technologies' LX Supreme 3D 3 is attractive...plenty of room for expansion...a strong warranty, consisting of labor coverage for as long as you own the PC...a helpful setup guide...ample speed for those looking for a system in this price range..."

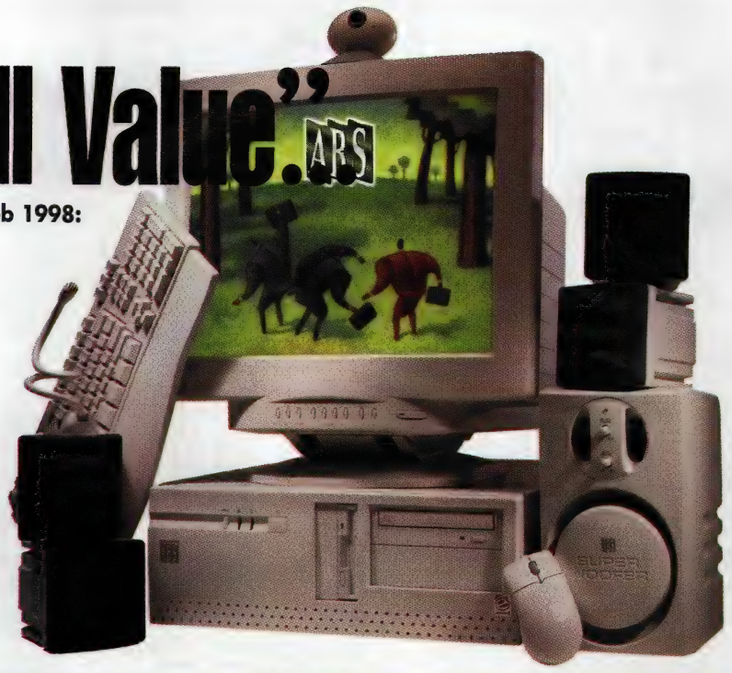
Computer Shopper Featured System Feb 1998:
~Source Page: 166-182 By Patrick Norton.



COMPUTER SHOPPER FEATURED SYSTEM (Oct. 1998)
Source Pages: 190~200 One-Grand System
by Stephen W. Plain (Oct. 1998)



COMPUTER SHOPPER FEATURED SYSTEM (May. 1998)
Source Pages: 158-168 Purchasing Power by
Amee Abel (May 1998)



CNET Computers.com
"ABS Gamer's DVD Special is a Knockout Machine"



ABS AWARD WINNING SYSTEMS

Windows Magazine March 1999
ABS Multimedia Extreme System AWPC1

- 128MB PC100 SDRAM/100MHz Front Side Bus
- 12.7GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive
- 3rd Generation DVD-ROM
- Iomega 100MB Internal Zip Drive w/Disk
- ATI All-in-Wonder Pro 8MB 3D 2X AGP Video Card w/TV Tuner and Video Capture High Res 1600x1200 @ 85Hz
- Voodoo 2 3Dfx 12MB 3D Game Accelerator
- Digital Color Internet Camera
- 19" .26DP 1600x1200 Color Monitor
- Creative Labs SoundBlaster PCI128 Sound Card
- Altec Lansing ACS45.1 PowerCube™ Multimedia Subwoofer Speaker System
- 56K V.90 PCI Fax/Modem w/Voice Mail, Full Duplex
- MS Natural Keyboard & IntelliMouse w/Pad
- 1.44MB Floppy Drive, High Speed I/O Ports: 2S, 1P, 1G, 2USB
- ATX Mid Tower (Desktop Case Optional)
- Microsoft Windows '98 w/USB Support, Manual & CD
- Free Software: Grolier's Encyclopedia
  Corel WordPerfect Suite 8 Professional

Intel® Pentium® III Processor w/512KB Cache

500MHz	$2359	#4250
450MHz	$ 2119	#4251

Intel® Pentium® II Processor w/512KB Cache

450MHz	$ 2069	#4252
400MHz	$ 1879	#4253

C-Net January 1999
ABS Gamer's DVD Special System AWPC2

- 64MB PC100 SDRAM/100MHz Front Side Bus
- 8.4GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive
- 3rd Generation DVD-ROM
- Diamond Viper V550 16MB nVidia TNT True 128Bit 2X AGP Video Card w/DirectX 6.0 and OpenGL High Res 1920x1200@85Hz, Flicker Free up to 200Hz
- Hardware DVD MPEG2 Decoder Card with TV-Out
- 17" .25DP SVGA 1600x1200 Monitor, Flat Screen, MPR II
- Yamaha 32Bit PCI WaveTable Sound Card
- Subwoofer Speaker System w/Microphone
- Upgrade to Altec Lansing ACS45.1 PowerCube™ Multimedia Subwoofer Speaker System @ $40
- 56K V.90 PCI Fax/Modem w/Voice Mail
- 1.44MB Floppy Drive, High Speed I/O Ports: 2S, 1P, 1G
- MS Natural Keyboard & IntelliMouse w/ABS Mouse Pad
- ATX Mid Tower (Desktop Case Optional)
- Microsoft Windows '98 w/USB Support, Manual & CD
- Free Software: Grolier's Encyclopedia
  Corel WordPerfect Suite 8.0

Intel® Pentium® III Processor w/512KB Cache

450MHz	$1679	#4261

Intel® Pentium® II Processor w/512KB Cache

450MHz	$ 1609	#4262
400MHz	$ 1399	#4263
350MHz	$ 1299	#4264

Computer Shopper March 1999
ABS Gamer's Supreme System AWPC3

- 128MB PC100 SDRAM/100MHz Front Side Bus
- 8.4GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive
- 40X Max EIDE CD-ROM
- USB Digital Camera
- 17" .25DP SVGA 1600x1200 Monitor, Flat Screen, MPR II
- Diamond Viper V550 16MB nVidia TNT True 128Bit 2X AGP Video Card w/DirectX 6.0 and OpenGL High Res 1920x1200@85Hz, Flicker Free up to 200Hz
- NEW Creative Labs SoundBlaster Live! Value Sound Card
- Subwoofer Speaker System w/Microphone
- 56K V.90 PCI Fax/Modem w/Voice Mail
- 1.44MB Floppy Drive, High Speed I/O Ports: 2S, 1P, 1G
- MS Natural Keyboard & IntelliMouse w/ABS Mouse Pad
- ATX Mid Tower (Desktop Case Optional)
- Microsoft Windows '98 w/USB Support, Manual & CD
- Free Software: Grolier's Encyclopedia
  Corel WordPerfect Suite 8.0
- Free Software: 3D AGP Game Bundle

Intel® Pentium® III Processor w/512KB Cache

450MHz	$1729	#4271

Intel® Pentium® II Processor w/512KB Cache

450MHz	$ 1679	#4272
400MHz	$ 1459	#4273
350MHz	$ 1339	#4274

MONSTRA

128MB/9.1GB/40X/15" M Server

- 128MB PC100 SDRAM/100MHz Front Side Bus
- Adaptec UW SCSI Controller
- Seagate 9.1GB Ultra SCSI Hard Drive
- Toshiba 40X Max SCSI CD-ROM
- ATI Rage IIc 8MB AGP 3D Video Card, w/MPEG High Resolution up to 1600x1200
- 15" .28DP Color Monitor
- 1.44MB Floppy Drive, High Speed I/O Ports: 2S, 1P, 1G, 2USB
- Microsoft IntelliMouse & ABS Mouse Pad
- ABS 104 Key Win '98 Keyboard
- ATX Mid Tower (Desktop Case Optional)
- Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0 w/5 Client Access

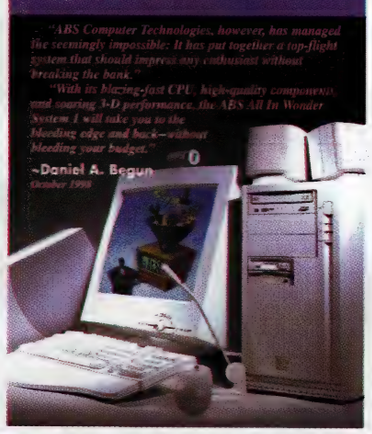
Intel® Pentium® III Processor

500MHz	$2769	#4280
450MHz	$ 2519	#4281

Intel® Pentium® III Xeon™ Processor

500MHz	$3649	#4282
450MHz	$ 3469	#4283

Computer Shopper
"Get It All With the ABS All In Wonder System 1"



ABS ALL IN WONDER SYSTEMS

256MB/17.2GB/DVD/19"/56Kbps AIWS1

- 256MB PC100 SDRAM/100MHz Front Side Bus
- UPGRADED 17.2GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive (9.0ms)
- 3rd Generation DVD-ROM
- Iomega 100MB Internal Zip Drive w/Disk
- ATI All-in-Wonder Pro 8MB 3D 2X AGP Video Card w/TV Tuner and Video Capture High Res 1600x1200 @ 85Hz, Flicker Free up to 200Hz
- NEW Voodoo 2 3Dfx 12MB 3D Game Accelerator
- Digital Color Internet Camera
- 19" .26DP 1600x1200 Color Monitor
- NEW Creative Labs SoundBlaster Live! Value Sound Card
- UPGRADED Altec Lansing ACS45.1 PowerCube™ Multimedia Subwoofer Speaker System
- 56K V.90 PCI Fax/Modem w/Voice Mail, Full Duplex
- MS Natural Keyboard & IntelliMouse w/ABS Mouse Pad
- 1.44MB Floppy Drive, High Speed I/O Ports: 2S, 1P, 1G, 2USB
- ATX Mid Tower (Desktop Case Optional)
- Microsoft Windows '98 w/USB Support, Manual & CD
- Free Software: Grolier's Encyclopedia
  Corel WordPerfect Suite 8 Professional
- Free: True Color Flatbed Scanner

Intel® Pentium® III Processor w/512KB Cache

500MHz	$2589	#4180
450MHz	$ 2349	#4181

Intel® Pentium® II Processor w/512KB Cache

450MHz	$ 2299	#4182
400MHz	$ 2099	#4183

128MB/13.5GB/DVD/19"/56Kbps AIWS2

- 128MB PC100 SDRAM/100MHz Front Side Bus
- 13.5GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive (9.0ms)
- 3rd Generation DVD-ROM
- Digital Color Internet Camera
- ATI All-in-Wonder Pro 8MB 3D 2X AGP Video Card w/TV Tuner and Video Capture High Res 1600x1200 @ 85Hz, Flicker Free up to 200Hz
- 19" .26DP 1600x1200 Color Monitor, MPR II
- NEW Creative Labs SoundBlaster Live! Value Sound Card
- Subwoofer Sound System w/Microphone, 1 Subwoofer, 2 Woofers & 2 Tweeters, Total RMS Output 25 Watts
- 56K V.90 Fax/Modem w/Voice Mail, Full Duplex
- 1.44MB Floppy Drive, High Speed I/O Ports: 2S, 1P, 1G, 2USB
- PS/2 Net Mouse, ABS Mouse Pad, 104 Key Win '98 Keyboard
- ATX Mid Tower (Desktop Case Optional)
- Microsoft Windows '98 w/USB Support, Manual & CD
- Free Software: Grolier's Encyclopedia, Corel WordPerfect Suite 8 Professional
- ✓Upgrade to 21" .22 Horizontal DP Monitor @ $435

Intel® Pentium® III Processor w/512KB Cache

500MHz	$2199	#4190
450MHz	$ 1959	#4191

Intel® Pentium® II Processor w/512KB Cache

450MHz	$ 1879	#4192
400MHz	$ 1679	#4193



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Take it from the Experts *January 1998*
Michael J. Miller, Editor-in-Chief, PC Magazine.

"ABS PC the Best Performer..."

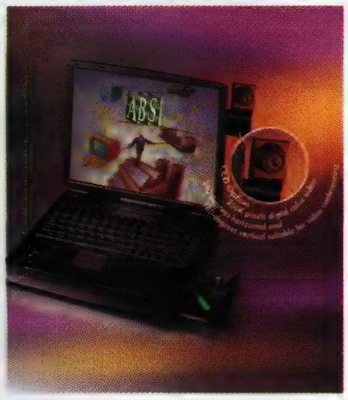
intel inside pentium II processor

ABS INTERACT NOTEBOOKS

13.3"TFT/32MB/3.0GB/24X iNB2

- Intel® Mobile Pentium® II Processor
- 32MB SDRAM, upgradable to 128MB
- 24X CD-ROM, 1.44MB Floppy Drive
- ATI Rage Pro 3D Graphics Accelerator w/4MB VDRAM
- Removable 3.0GB Ultra DMA Hard Drive
- Lithium Ion Battery 4500 Mah
- 3D Audio Stereo Sound w/Built-in Speakers & Mic
- 56K Fax Modem
- PCMCIA Slots, Two Type II/ One Type III
- Windows '98 preinstalled w/Manual & CD
- Carrying case and AC Adapter
- 3 Year Limited Warranty (1 Year Parts & 3 Years Labor)
- Free Software: Corel Word Perfect Suite 8 Professional

266MHz $1649 #4160
300MHz $1839 #4161



14.1"TFT/64MB/4.0GB/24X iNB3

- Intel® Mobile Pentium® II Processor
- 64MB SDRAM, upgradable to 128MB
- 24X CD-ROM, 1.44MB Floppy Drive
- ATI Rage Pro 3D Graphics Accelerator w/4MB VDRAM
- Removable 4.0GB Ultra DMA Hard Drive
- Lithium Ion Battery 4500 Mah
- 3D Audio Stereo Sound w/Built-in Speakers & Mic
- 56K Fax Modem
- PCMCIA Slots, Two Type II/ One Type III
- Windows '98 preinstalled w/Manual & CD
- Carrying case and AC Adapter
- 3 Year Limited Warranty (1 Year Parts & 3 Years Labor)
- ✓Free Software: Corel Word Perfect Suite 8 Professional

266MHz $1879 #4170
300MHz $2069 #4171

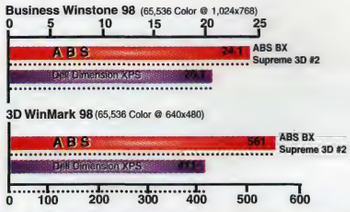
9 Years/Last 9 years in.... Computer Shopper

Having advertised for 9 years in Computer Shopper, ABS knows quality. We make the PC's that you can trust. We manufacture dependability. Reliable products are the foundation of our success. If you are searching for solutions, ABS has the answers.

Incredible Value

Value has been a long-time tradition at ABS. We strive to provide you with the most machine for your money. With nearly a decade of leadership in direct mail order and millions of satisfied customers, we know that value is the real decision.

COMPUTER SHOPPER FEATURED SYSTEM (JULY. 1998)
Source Pages: 320-322 Purchasing Power by Amee Abel (July 1998)
"ABS' new system proves that Pentium® II Processor 350MHz computing doesn't always mean a premium price."
"Since its pricing is equivalent to a 333MHz system, anyone in the market for a new business or home system may want to look closely at this computer."



ABS SUPREME 3D SYSTEMS

128MB/12.7GB/44X/19"/56Kbps 3D1

- 128MB PC100 SDRAM/100MHz Front Side Bus
- 12.7GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive
- 44X Max EIDE CD-ROM
- Diamond 3Dfx 128-bit Voodoo Banshee 3D AGP Video w/16MB
- ✓Upgrade to ATI 32MB Video Graphic Card @ $49
- 19" .26DP 1600x1200 Color Monitor, MPR II
- Creative Labs SoundBlaster PCI128 Sound Card
- Subwoofer Speaker System w/Microphone
- 56K V.90 Fax/Modem w/Voice Mail, Full Duplex
- 1.44MB Floppy Drive, High Speed I/O Ports: 2S, 1P, 1G, 2USB
- Microsoft Windows '98 w/USB Support, Manual & CD
- PS/2 Net Mouse, ABS Mouse Pad, 104 Key Win '98 Keyboard
- ATX Mid Tower (Desktop Case Optional)
- Free Software: Grolier's Encyclopedia, Corel WordPerfect Suite 8 Professional
- ✓Add an Iomega Internal Zip Drive @ $75
- ✓Add an Epson Stylus Color 740 Inkjet Printer @ $249

Intel® Pentium® III Processor w/512KB Cache
500MHz $1979 #4010
450MHz $1759 #4011

Intel® Pentium® II Processor w/512KB Cache
450MHz $1679 #4012
400MHz $1479 #4013

128MB/8.4GB/40X/17"/56Kbps 3D2

- 128MB PC100 SDRAM, 384MB Max PnP BIOS
- 8.4GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive
- 40X Max EIDE CD-ROM
- ATI Xpert 98 3D 2X AGP 8MB Video Card 3D Rage Pro Chipset "DVD Ready" MPEG High Res 1600x1200 @ 85Hz, Flicker Free up to 200Hz
- 17" .27DP Color Monitor Flat Screen, MPR II
- ABS 3D Wavetable Sound Card w/3D Effect, 128 Sound, 32 Voice
- Powered Stereo Speakers, 14W RMS, 80W PMPO & Microphone
- 56K V.90 PCI Fax/Modem w/Voice Mail
- 1.44MB Floppy Drive, High Speed I/O Ports: 2S, 1P, 1G, 2USB
- ABS 3-Button Mouse & ABS Mouse Pad
- ATX Mid Tower & 104 Key Win '98 Keyboard
- Microsoft Windows '98 w/USB Support, Manual & CD
- Free Software: Grolier's Encyclopedia Corel WordPerfect Suite 8.0
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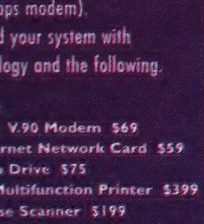
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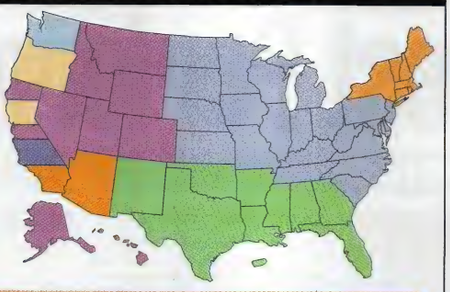
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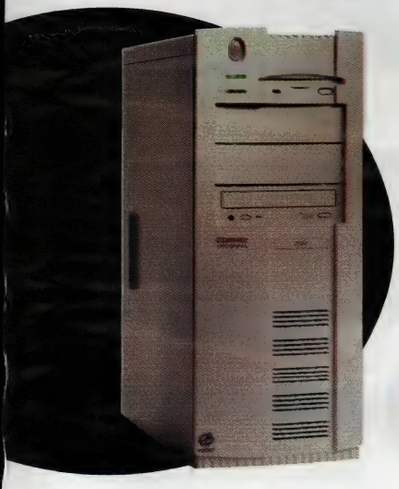
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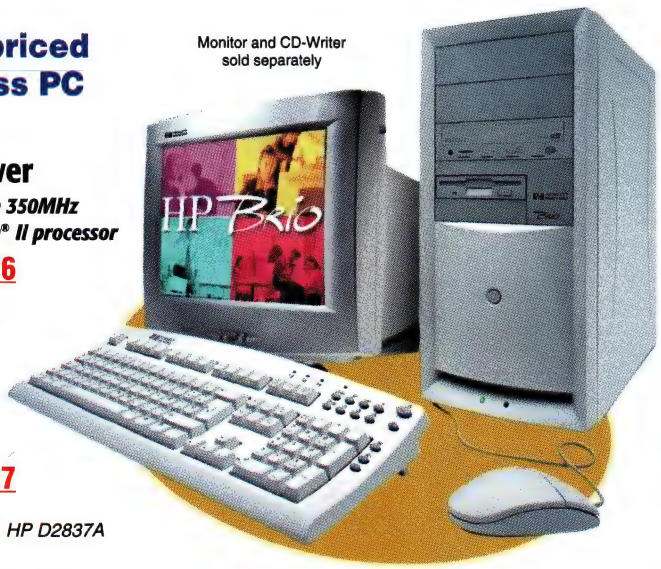
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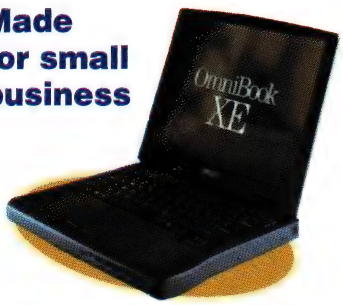
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At CDW, you are at the center and heart of the CDW Circle of Service. This philosophy embraces the notion that everything we do revolves around our customers. From personalized service with expertise from CDW's experienced account managers, to toll-free, lifetime technical support provided by our A+ certified technicians, we are committed to providing you with the best computing solutions, service, support and prices. The essence of the CDW Circle of Service is that our job is to make your job easier. CDW has been recognized as one of *Fortune* magazine's "100 Best Companies to Work for in America," honored as No. 36 for 1998. At CDW, we take care of our employees and in turn, they take care of you with knowledgeable and courteous advice. When you do business with CDW, you benefit from doing business with an industry leader. Here are some key components of the CDW Circle of Service:

PERSONALIZED SERVICE AND EXPERTISE

As a CDW customer, you will be personally assigned to a dedicated account manager. Our account managers lead the industry in product knowledge, having graduated from CDW University, a six month extensive training program. To stay on the cutting-edge of the industry's newest developments, your account manager meets weekly with manufacturers' representatives to receive continuous product training. When you call CDW, you can be sure that you will be talking to a helpful, knowledgeable and experienced account manager.

ONE-STOP RESOURCE

Offering a broad selection of more than 40,000 products at competitive prices, CDW features brand names like HP, 3Com, Cisco, Compaq, Computer Associates, IBM, Microsoft, Toshiba and others. With CDW, we have the products you want and the expertise you need for all your computing solutions.

CUSTOMIZED SOLUTIONS AND FREE INSTALLATION

CDW custom configures computer solutions to meet your needs. Whether you are starting from scratch or looking for compatible products, our account managers can pull together systems that meet, complement and create what you are looking for. With our vast product selection, we can configure the components you need across brands and categories. We also install most system upgrades for free, before your system leaves our facility.

IN GOOD COMPANY

With more than a billion dollars in buying power, we negotiate the best price for you. When you buy from CDW you can buy with confidence. With more than 14 years of experience and a track record as one of the industry's fastest-growing companies, CDW has been recognized as one of the most influential companies in the industry. CDW is a Fortune 1000, publicly-held corporation (NASDAQ: CDWC) and is D&B rated 5A1, Dun and Bradstreet's highest-rating of financial strength and responsibility.

FAST DELIVERY AND HI-TECH OPERATIONS

CDW's inventory, shipping and delivery procedures are facilitated by a highly automated, state-of-the-art system which completes customer transactions in the industry's most cost-effective and efficient manner. Integrating technology into our business model, CDW passes cost savings on to you and provides you the systems you want, when you want them. Fast, economical and reliable FedEx, Airborne Express and RPS shipping are available, and CDW tracks your order online to provide you with accurate delivery status.

LIFETIME TECHNICAL SUPPORT, REPAIRS AND HELP DESK

CDW's focus on providing you service and support continues long after the sale. At CDW, you have toll-free technical support for the lifetime of your product. Tech support is available 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Central Time. CDW's tech support is among the industry's best, with more than 60 factory-trained and A+ certified technicians on hand to help you. CDW's technicians have received extensive training and certifications from our top vendors including Hewlett-Packard. In addition, CDW provides the best Novell NetWare support with Certified Novell NetWare Engineers including Enterprise Certified Novell Engineers, Master Certified Novell Engineers, and Certified Novell Administrators. CDW's certified technicians also include A+ Microsoft Certified and Microsoft Certified Systems Engineers; A+ Macintosh Certified; Compaq Accredited Systems Engineers and IBM Professional Server Experts. We are committed to providing the solutions and service you need, long after the sale.

ONLINE ORDERING WITH EASE

Visit CDW's Web site dedicated to Hewlett-Packard, **www.cdw.com/hp.** It's loaded with a wide selection of products to choose from. Our Web site offers you safe, convenient ordering at the click of a mouse. Unique, user-friendly features, including *CDW SmartSearch* and *CDW Compare*, are designed to give you the advantage of full-service information and price comparisons, providing the privacy and security of online ordering.

Dear Valued Customer,

Welcome to CDW's new Hewlett-Packard Showcase. We are dedicated to filling your computing needs with cost-effective solutions. In addition to giving you a convenient place to buy all your Hewlett-Packard products, CDW also provides the support you need to keep your systems up and running.

CDW is proud to offer HP's new portable small business series with the HP OmniBook XE and HP Jornada Series. These portables maximize your performance while you're on the road. See the inside of this showcase for details. Remember, CDW will custom configure your systems, and in most cases, ship them the same day.

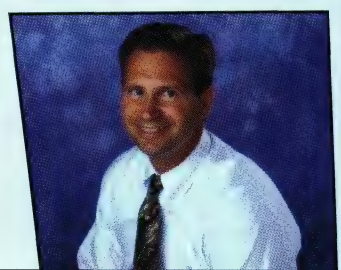
Whether you are a computer novice or expert, CDW has the solutions you need, when you need them. As the country's leading direct solutions provider, we are proud to offer you a selection of more than 40,000 computer products and solutions from top brand names. CDW continues to offer some of the best support in the industry, with more than 60 factory-trained and A+ certified technicians on staff, custom configuring more than 500 computers each day. CDW also offers toll-free technical support for the life of your product.

Please take a moment and look through this HP Showcase and find great products and CDW-recommended solutions that appeal to your business. Make CDW your one-stop resource for all your computing needs. And if you don't see what you're looking for in here, just give us a call.

Sincerely,

Gregory C. Zeman

Gregory C. Zeman
President



888.239.7464

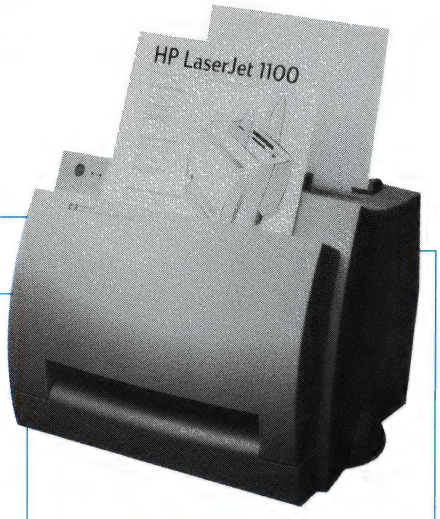
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HP value

HEWLETT PACKARD
Expanding Possibilities

Ultra-sharp print quality for individuals or small workgroups

HP LaserJet 1100se printer



- **Space-saving** design
- **Network** with optional HP JetDirect external print servers
- **Copy and scan** upgradeable

◗ Resolution: 600 x 600 dpi ◗ Print speed: 8 ppm ◗ RAM: 2MB std., 18MB max. ◗ 125-sheet paper tray ◗ Maximum 7000 pages per month ◗ Easily add copying and scanning ◗ 1-year warranty ◗ *HP C4226A*

HP LaserJet 1100Ase **$499.00** CDW 132928
◗ Laser printer, copier, scanner ◗ *HP C4220A*

$399.00
CDW 132929

HP LaserJet 2100se printer



- **Impressive quality**—1200 x 1200 dpi
- **No speed compromises** at highest quality
- **Fast infrared** for walk-up printing from a variety of PCs

◗ Resolution: 1200 x 1200 dpi ◗ Print speed: 10 ppm ◗ RAM: 4MB std., 52MB max. ◗ 250-sheet paper tray ◗ Maximum 15,000 pages per month ◗ Infrared printing without cables ◗ 1-year warranty ◗ *HP C4138A*

$699.00
CDW 144929

HP LaserJet 2100M **$796.80** CDW 144848
◗ RAM: 8MB std., 52MB max. ◗ Macintosh compatible ◗ *HP C4171A*

HP LaserJet 2100 TN **$976.65** CDW 144841
◗ RAM: 8MB std., 52MB max. ◗ Two 250 universal cassette trays ◗ HP JetDirect 600N (EIO) internal print server ◗ *HP C4172A*

HP LaserJet 3100se printer



- **Laser print, fax, copy and scan**

◗ Resolution: 600 x 600 dpi ◗ Print speed: 6 ppm ◗ Up to 150-page fax memory ◗ 175 programmable speed-dials ◗ 1-year warranty with Express Exchange ◗ *HP C4175A*

$699.00
CDW 109811

HP LaserJet supplies and accessories

Toner

HP LaserJet 1100 *HP C4092A* **$54.75** CDW 136012
HP LaserJet 2100 *HP C4096A* **$87.51** CDW 145955
HP LaserJet 3100 *HP C3906A* **$54.30** CDW 60750

Extended warranty

HP LaserJet 1100 *HP H5473A* **$157.75** CDW 143997
◗ 3-year next business day

HP LaserJet 3100 *HP H5471A* **$129.11** CDW 47606
◗ 3-year express exchange

CDW SOLUTION

Affordable multimedia computing

HP provides proven, leading edge technology to keep you ahead of the competition.

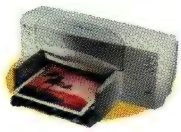
Monitor sold separately



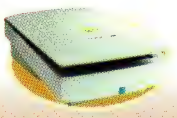
HP Pavilion 4450 **$899.00** CDW 141362
◗ 366MHz Intel Celeron™ processor with 6.4GB hard drive, 64MB RAM, 32X CD-ROM and 56Kbps modem ◗ *HP D7350A*

HP M50 15" monitor **$299.00** CDW 141369
◗ 15" monitor, 13.7" viewable image size ◗ 0.28mm dot pitch ◗ *HP D5258A*

HP DeskJet 882C color printer
$299.00 CDW 137628



◗ Resolution: 600 x 600 dpi black; HP PhotoREt II ◗ Print speed: up to 8 ppm black, 5 ppm color ◗ *HP C6409B*



HP ScanJet 5200Cse color scanner
$299.00 CDW 145966
◗ Resolution: 1200 dpi ◗ *HP C7192A*

*With purchase of complete solution; call your CDW account manager for details.

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CDW™

HP performance



$1149.99
CDW 97680

Workgroup printing standards

HP LaserJet 4000se printer

- **100MHz RISC processor** produces fast output without the wait
- **Two PCI-based EIO connectivity slots** deliver high-speed flexible networking
- **Easy installation and management** with HP's new Internet installer and driver update utility

▸ Resolution: 1200 x 1200 dpi ▸ Print speed: 17 ppm ▸ RAM: 4MB std., 100MB max. ▸ 500-sheet paper tray ▸ Maximum 65,000 pages per month ▸ 1-year warranty ▸ *HP C3094A*

HP LaserJet 4000T printer **$1298.57** CDW 97682
▸ Two 250-sheet input trays ▸ *HP C4119A*

HP LaserJet 4000N printer **$1389.99** CDW 97684
▸ 8MB RAM ▸ Includes HP JetDirect 600N print server for Ethernet ▸ *HP C4120A*

HP LaserJet 4000TN printer **$1554.64** CDW 97683
▸ 8MB RAM ▸ Two 250-sheet input trays ▸ Includes HP JetDirect 600N print server for Ethernet ▸ *HP C4121A*

CDW SOLUTION

Print sharing savings

Attach stand-alone printers to network economically



HP 2500Cse color ink jet printer **$999.00** CDW 138819
▸ Prints 11" x 17" ▸ Resolution: up to 600 x 600 dpi; HP PhotoREt II ▸ Print speed: up to 9 ppm black, 7 ppm color ▸ *HP C2686A*

HP LaserJet 5000 laser printer **$1448.66** CDW 107693
▸ Prints 11" x 17" ▸ Resolution: 1200 x 1200 dpi ▸ Print speed: 16 ppm ▸ *HP C4110A*

HP JetDirect 500X
external 10/100 print server **$335.93** CDW 133586
▸ Three-port external 10/100BASE-TX print server ▸ Fast Ethernet and Ethernet 10/100BASE-TX networks ▸ *HP J3265A*

HP ProCurve 10/100 hub **$414.55** CDW 126275
▸ 12-port, unmanaged, dual-speed hub ▸ *HP J3294A*

HP LaserJet 5000 printer



$1448.66
CDW 107693

▸ Resolution: 1200 x 1200 dpi ▸ Print speed: 16 ppm ▸ Prints 11" x 17" ▸ RAM: 4MB std., 52MB max. ▸ 250-sheet input tray ▸ Maximum 65,000 pages per month ▸ 1-year warranty ▸ *HP C4110A*

HP LaserJet 5000N printer **$2038.76** CDW 107695
▸ 8MB RAM ▸ Additional 500-sheet input paper tray ▸ Includes HP JetDirect 600N internal print server ▸ *HP C4111A*

HP LaserJet 5000GN printer **$2529.27** CDW 107700
▸ 12MB RAM ▸ Additional 500-sheet input paper tray ▸ Includes HP JetDirect 600N internal print server ▸ 1GB EIO disk drive ▸ *HP C4112A*



HP LaserJet supplies and accessories

Toner
HP LaserJet 4000 standard capacity *HP C4127X* **$88.11** CDW 98433
HP LaserJet 4000 high capacity *HP C4127A* **$119.30** CDW 98432
HP LaserJet 5000 high capacity *HP C4129X* **$139.02** CDW 110269

Extended warranty
HP LaserJet 4000 3-year next day onsite, *HP H5473A* **$157.75** CDW 143997
HP LaserJet 5000 3-year next day onsite, *HP H5651A* **$377.14** CDW 106706

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HP COLOR LAYERING

HP's newest DeskJet printers deliver photo quality images by building more layers of color through smaller drops of ink. Smaller drops, NOT more dots (DPI) is the key to photo quality printing.

HP color

HEWLETT PACKARD
Expanding Possibilities

up to $100 rebate*

Fastest DeskJet with HP Color Layering

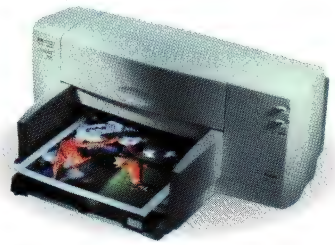
HP DeskJet 895Cse



- Resolution: 600 x 600 dpi black, HP PhotoREt II color layering technology
- Print speed: up to 10 ppm black, 6 ppm color
- Paper handling: all sizes from 3" x 5" to 8.5" x 14"
- 100-sheet paper tray
- Maximum 3,000 pages per month
- 1-year warranty
- *HP C6410B*

PC MAGAZINE EDITORS' CHOICE
November 3, 1998

$399.00 CDW 127329

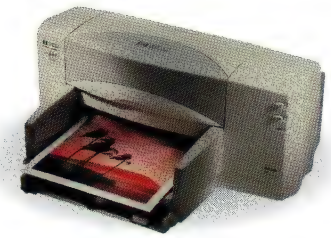


HP Color Layering value

HP DeskJet 712C

- Resolution: 600 x 600 dpi black, HP PhotoREt II color layering technology
- Print speed: up to 6 ppm black, 3 ppm color
- Paper handling: all sizes from 3" x 5" to 8.5" x 14"
- 100-sheet paper tray
- Maximum 2,000 pages per month
- 1-year warranty
- *HP C5894B*

$199.00 CDW 127327



HP Color Layering with USB connectivity

HP DeskJet 882C

- Resolution: 600 x 600 dpi black, HP PhotoREt II color layering technology
- Print speed: up to 8 ppm black, 5 ppm color
- Paper handling: all sizes from 3" x 5" to 8.5" x 14"
- USB and Parallel ports
- 100-sheet paper tray
- Maximum 2,000 pages per month
- 1-year warranty
- *HP C6409B*

$299.00 CDW 137628



HP Color Layering with 11" x 17" output

HP DeskJet 1120Cse

- Resolution: 600 x 600 dpi black, HP PhotoREt II color layering technology
- Print speed: up to 6.5 ppm black, 4.5 ppm color
- Paper handling: all sizes from 3" x 5" to 13" x 19"
- 100-sheet paper tray
- Maximum pages per month: 3,000 pages black, 5000 pages color
- 1-year warranty
- *HP C2679A*

$499.00 CDW 109823



HP DeskJet supplies and accessories

Ink cartridges	
HP DeskJet 712C black cartridge, *HP 51645G*	**$24.75** CDW 133561
HP DeskJet 882C, 895Cse and 1120Cse black cartridge, *HP 51645A*	**$31.87** CDW 57835
HP DeskJet 712C, 882C, 895Cse and 1120Cse color cartridge, *HP C1823A*	**$33.20** CDW 94176
Extended warranty	
HP DeskJet 712C and 882C 3-year Express Exchange, *HP H5461A*	**$45.91** CDW 70249
HP DeskJet 895Cse and 1120Cse 3-year Express Exchange, *HP H5465A*	**$75.56** CDW 49421

*Purchase ANY PC, ANY monitor and *one* of the following printers CDW 127329, 127327, 137628 (or call for all qualifying HP peripherals) and receive a $50 mail-in manufacturer rebate; purchase ANY PC, ANY monitor and *two* of the following printers CDW 127329, 127327, 137628 (or call for all qualifying HP peripherals) and receive a $100 mail-in manufacturer rebate; call your CDW account manager for all qualifying HP DeskJets, HP LaserJets, HP ScanJets and HP CD-Writers. Restrictions apply (offer ends 5/1/99).

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www.cdw.com/hp

CDW™

HP speed

Changing the rules of color printing

HP 2000Cse Professional Series color printer



- **Fastest HP desktop color printer available** provides color laser equivalent speed for your desktop
- **Low printing costs** save up to 30 percent compared to other color desktop printers
- **Brilliant photo quality on any paper** setting a new business standard for color printers

▸ Print technology: plain paper drop-on-demand thermal ink jet printing ▸ Resolution: up to 600 x 600 dpi; HP PhotoREt II ▸ Print speed: up to 10 ppm black, 7 ppm color ▸ Monthly volume: 5000 pages ▸ Paper handling: 150-sheet tray standard ▸ *HP C5900A*

$599.00
CDW 112346

HP 2000CN color printer **$949.00** CDW 112347
▸ HP JetDirect 300X print server ▸ Additional 250-sheet paper tray ▸ *HP C5901A*

CDW SOLUTION

The Powerhouse–take control with complete desktop publishing

HP Vectra VE provides a fast 450MHz Intel Pentium® II processor, 64MB RAM and 6.4GB hard drive for your publishing needs.

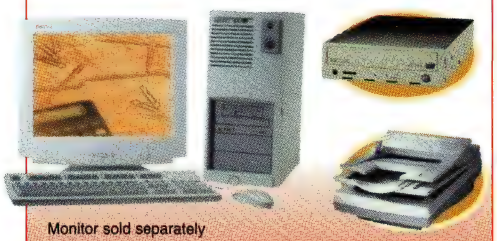
HP Vectra VE
mini-tower, *HP D6595N* **$1881.07** CDW 130684

HP 70
17" monitor, *HP D2837A* **$344.77** CDW 110431

HP 2000Cse Professional Series
color printer, *HP C5900A* **$599.00** CDW 112346

HP ScanJet 6250Cse
color scanner, *HP C6274A* **$499.00** CDW 125003

HP CD-Writer Plus 8110i
HP C4398A **$399.49** CDW 123275



Monitor sold separately

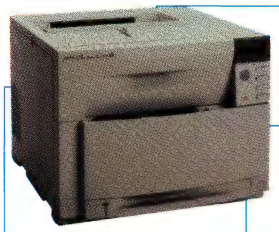
HP 2500Cse Professional Series color printer



- **Accommodates large format printing** with 11" x 17" capabilities
- **HP's Modular Ink Delivery System** employs separate printheads and ink cartridges
- **Network capable** with an optional HP JetDirect MIO internal print server

▸ Print Technology: plain paper drop-on-demand thermal ink jet printing ▸ Resolution: up to 600 x 600 dpi; HP PhotoREt II ▸ Print speed: up to 9 ppm black, 7 ppm color ▸ Monthly volume: 12,000 sheets ▸ Paper handling: 150-sheet multipurpose; 250-sheet input tray ▸ 1-year limited parts and labor; first year onsite warranty ▸ *HP C2686A*

$999.00
CDW 138819



HP Color LaserJet 4500 laser printer

LEASE $83▼
CDW 136009

- **Ideal workgroup printing** create sales-winning marketing presentations, easy-to-read financial statements and polished materials for any occasion

▸ Print speed: 16 ppm black, 4 ppm color ▸ Resolution: 600 dpi engine with HP Image Resolution Enhancement technology (HP ImageREt 2400) ▸ HP ColorSmart II automatically provides optimal color settings ▸ *HP C4084A*

$2458.68
CDW 136009

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www.cdw.com/hp

▼Monthly lease payments quoted are based on a 36 month lease. Rates are subject to change. Call your CDW account manager for details!

HP innovation

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Expanding Possibilities



HP JetDirect external print sharing solutions

- **Simple, affordable solution** for sharing printers on a network
- **Easiest way to connect** an HP printer directly to the network
- **HP JetAdmin software** makes printer management easier and more efficient for your network

HP JetDirect 170X external print server

Single-port 10BASE-T external print server

$144.93 CDW 133584 *HP J3258A*

HP JetDirect 300X external print server

Single-port external 10/100BASE-TX print server

$239.47 CDW 102969 *HP J3263A*

HP JetDirect 500X external print server

Three-port external 10/100BASE-TX print server

Fast Ethernet and Ethernet 10/100BASE-TX networks

$335.93 CDW 133586 *HP J3265A*

Token Ring networks

$519.16 CDW 133585 *HP J3264A*

Bring photos to life with digital imaging solutions

...shoot



HP PhotoSmart C30 digital camera

- **Offer point-and-shoot simplicity** and sharp, picture-perfect results
- **Capture and view photos instantly** in a broad range of lighting conditions
- **Easily download your photos** to your PC for easy viewing, e-mailing, storing, printing and more

$399.00
CDW 133537 *HP C5386A*

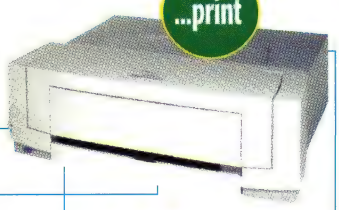


HP PhotoSmart photo scanner

- **Quickest and easiest way** to convert existing photographs, slides and negatives
- **Optimum scanning resolution** from the photo scanner's software that will give professional photographic results based on the finished photo size

$399.00
CDW 97122 *HP C5100A*

...print



HP PhotoSmart photo printer

- **Produces conventional-looking pictures** that look like they were developed
- **To tell the difference** between a photo-printed and a chemically-developed picture, you'd literally have to use a microscope

$199.00
CDW 97116 *HP C3804A*

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CDW™

HP portability

Unparalleled convenience in a mobile e-mail and personal information companion

HP Jornada 820 handheld PC

- **Access e-mail and key information** with unparalleled convenience
- **Work up to 10 hours** without recharging
- **Comfortable viewing** with an 8.2" color screen
- **Carry all your critical data** in this lightweight, 2.5-pound (1.1-kg) companion
- **Enjoy the familiarity of Windows** with the latest Microsoft Windows CE, Handheld PC Professional Edition software
- **Work with all of your favorite** Microsoft Office applications
- **Access information** anywhere with the integrated 56Kbps modem



$899.33
CDW 136082

Access information anywhere, anytime and in color

HP Jornada 680 color palmtop PC

- **Access important business** information instantly, in color
- **The color palmtop PC** for easy time and information management
- **Go anywhere** and your information goes with you
- **Access information anywhere** with internal 56Kbps modem
- **Comfortable keyboard** is the largest in it's class
- **Quick data retrieval** with the included stylus pen



$848.58
CDW 148389

The color PC that fits in your pocket

HP Jornada 420 palm-size PC

- **Carry your business information** with you wherever you go–in rich, vibrant color
- **Smooth integration** with the rest of your office
- **Easily manage** your contacts and schedule while mobile
- **Instantly access critical information** with built-in support for FLEX CompactFlash paging* and modem cards
- **Instant access** to the information you need
- **Quick data retrieval** with the included stylus pen

*Paging solution available in the U.S. only in mid 1999



$479.89
CDW 148390

Microsoft Windows CE 2.11

Microsoft® Windows CE

- Efficient power management allows you to work longer
- Instant-on ability provides immediate access to all of your important information
- Familiar look and feel of Windows 95, 98 and NT 4.0
- Manage your email with Microsoft Pocket Outlook™
- Easy web browsing with Microsoft Pocket Internet Explorer®

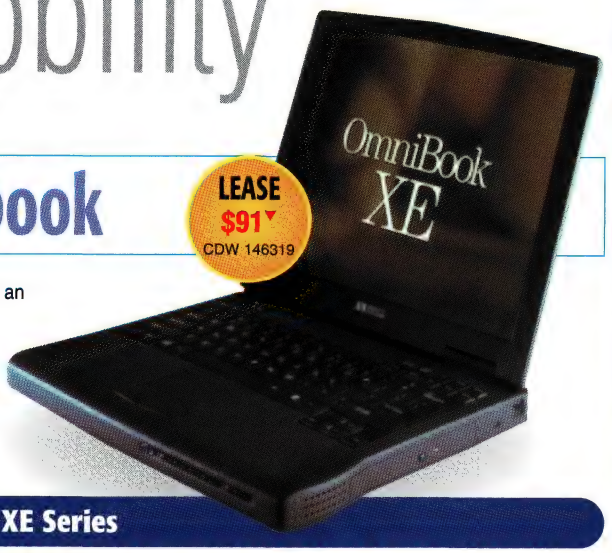
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HEWLETT PACKARD
Expanding Possibilities

HP mobility

All-in-one mobility to work whenever and wherever

HP OmniBook XE notebook



LEASE $91▼ CDW 146319

- **Made for small business,** Hewlett-Packard's OmniBook XE line features an all-in-one design that makes it your perfect traveling companion
- **All-inclusive design** features built-in floppy, hard drive, 24X CD-ROM drive and 56K V.90 modem for maximum convenience
- **CD-ROM controls on the front** of the notebook enable audio playback without turning on the notebook

OmniBook XE Series

Processor	RAM std./max.	Hard drive	Color display	Thickness	Weight	Operating System	Price	CDW	HP
266MHz Celeron	32MB/256MB	4GB	12.1" dual scan	1.65"	6.6 lbs.	Windows 98	$1498.88	146315	*HP F1719WT*
266MHz Pentium II	32MB/256MB	4GB	12.1" active matrix	1.65"	6.38 lbs.	Windows 98	$1788.78	146316	*HP F1720WT*
300MHz Pentium II	64MB/256MB	4GB	12.1" active matrix	1.65"	6.38 lbs.	Windows 98	$2077.97	146317	*HP F1721W*
333MHz Pentium II	64MB/256MB	6GB	13.3" active matrix	1.65"	6.38 lbs.	Windows 98	$2678.98	146319	*HP F1722W*

All models feature a 56Kbps modem and 24X CD-ROM

▼Monthly lease payments quoted are based on a 36 month lease. Rates are subject to change. Call your CDW account manager for details!

CDW SOLUTION



Maximum performance–your perfect traveling companion



HP Omnibook XE notebook $1498.88 CDW 146315
◗ 266MHz Intel Celeron™ processor, 32MB RAM, 4GB hard drive, 56K modem ◗ *HP F1719WT*

HP DeskJet 340 portable inkjet printer $277.08 CDW 60751
◗ Resolution: 600 x 300 dpi black; 300 x 300 dpi color ◗ Print speed: up to 3 ppm black, 2 mpp color ◗ *HP C2655A*



Microsoft Office 97 Professional Edition with Bookshelf Basics $528.95 CDW 78403
◗ For Windows 95 and NT Workstation

HP 64MB SDRAM upgrade *HP F1457A* $258.97 CDW 115107

HP Port replicator *HP F1738A* $156.30 CDW 146863

HP Lithium-ion battery *HP F1739A* $217.44 CDW 146864

*Select products only, certain restrictions apply (offer valid 1/1/99 through 7/31/99)

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HP OfficeJet Pro 1170Cse

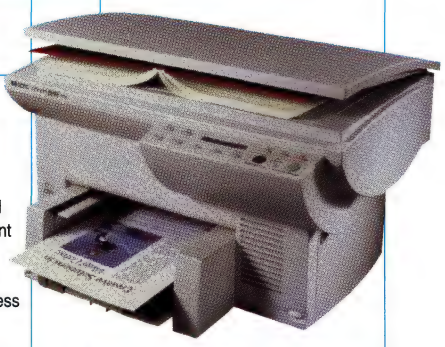
- **All functions designed to work together** with no compromises in quality and performance
- **HP's color-layering print technology** for photo-realistic printing, even on plain paper
- **Built-in flatbed scanner** lets you scan just about anything

Thermal ink jet printer ◗ Print speed: up to 9 ppm black, 5 ppm color ◗ EconoFast resolution: 300 x 300 black and color ◗ Best resolution: 600 x 600 black and color ◗ Printer language: HP PCL 3 ◗ HP FontSmart®, font management utility for TrueType, Type 1 and bitmapped fonts **Copier** ◗ Copy speed: up to 9 cpm black, 3 cpm color **Scanner** ◗ U.S. letter/A4 flat scanning bed ◗ 300 dpi optical resolution; 1200 dpi enhanced resolution ◗ Color: 30-bit internal color scanning (16.7 million colors) ◗ Grayscale: 8-bit monochrome scanning (256 levels of gray) ◗ 1-year HP Express Service warranty ◗ *HP C5364A*

HP OfficeJet Pro 1175Cse **$999.00** CDW 109815
◗ Integrated color printer, copier, scanner, communicator ◗ Includes 30-sheet automatic document feeder ◗ *HP C5365A*

HP OfficeJet 600 **$399.00** CDW 94182
◗ Color printer, fax, copier, scanner ◗ *HP C5313A*

HP OfficeJet 710 **$499.00** CDW 126282
◗ Color printer, color fax, copier, scanner ◗ Windows NT compatible ◗ *HP C6661A*



$799.00
CDW 109814

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HP ScanJet 6250Cse color scanner

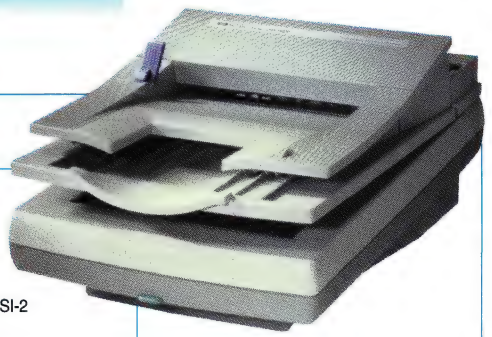
- **HP Intelligent Scanning Technology** ensures photo-quality scans every time
- **Dual Image Scanning** recognizes and optimizes photos, line art, and text—all in one scan
- **USB interface** provides plug-and-play connectivity

◗ Optical resolution: 1200 x 1200 dpi ◗ 36-bit color ◗ Maximum scan size: 8.5" x 11.7" ◗ USB or SCSI-2 interface ◗ Includes 25-page automatic document feeder ◗ 1-year limited warranty ◗ *HP C6272A*

HP ScanJet 6200Cse **$399.00** CDW 127332
◗ Optical resolution: 1200 x 1200 dpi ◗ 36-bit color ◗ *HP C6272A*

ScanJet 5200Cse **$299.00** CDW 145966
◗ Optical resolution: 600 dpi ◗ Scan speed: less than 90 seconds with most scans ◗ 36-bit color ◗ USB or Enhanced Parallel Port (EPP) interface ◗ *HP C7192A*

ScanJet 4100Cse **$199.00** CDW 127333
◗ Optical resolution: 600 dpi ◗ 36-bit color ◗ USB interface ◗ *HP C6292A*



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CDW 125003

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$399.49
CDW 123275

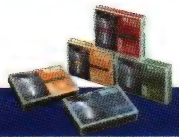
HP SureStore CD Writer Plus 7200 CD-ReWritable drive
▸ 650MB capacity ▸ 6X read, 2X write, 1X rewrite

Internal EIDE/ATAPI, *HP 4380A* — **$299.99** CDW 107994
External parallel, *HP 4381A* — **$399.99** CDW 107995

HP backup tape drives

Tape drive	Capacity	Interface	Format	Price	CDW	HP
HP Colorado 5GB internal	2.5/5GB	EIDE	Travan	$199.23	136261	*HP C4354B*
HP Colorado 5GB external	2.5/5GB	Parallel	Travan	$245.02	136269	*HP C4361B*
HP Colorado 8GB internal	4/8GB	EIDE	Travan	$268.19	136276	*HP C4386B*
HP Colorado 8GB external	4/8GB	Parallel	Travan	$316.13	136282	*HP C4388B*
HP SureStore DAT8 internal	4/8GB	SCSI-2	DAT/DDS	$784.27	136254	*HP C1528J*
HP SureStore DAT8 external	4/8GB	SCSI-2	DAT/DDS	$869.32	136256	*HP C1529J*
HP SureStore DAT24 internal	12/24GB	SCSI-2	DAT/DDS	$1036.35	136259	*HP C1555C*
HP SureStore DAT24 external	12/24GB	SCSI-2	DAT/DDS	$1129.14	136081	*HP C1556C*
HP SureStore DLT40 internal	20/40GB	SCSI-2	DLT	$2539.24	117536	*HP C5647A*
HP SureStore DLT40 external	20/40GB	SCSI-2	DLT	$2788.77	81585	*HP C1579A*
HP SureStore DLT70 internal	35/70GB	SCSI-3	DLT	$5595.34	136302	*HP C5658A*
HP SureStore DLT70 external	35/70GB	SCSI-3	DLT	$6105.85	100637	*HP C5657A*

All drives include one tape



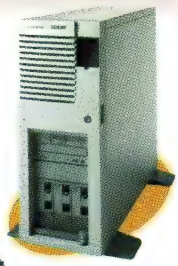
HP data media

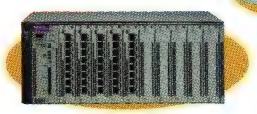
HP CD-Recordable media 650MB, *HP C4403A* — **$1.99** CDW 143225
HP CD-ReWritable media 650MB, *HP C4438A* — **$13.63** CDW 147811
HP Colorado 2.5/5GB 2-pack *HP C4429B* — **$54.46** CDW 96114
HP Colorado 4/8GB 2-pack *HP C4425B* — **$63.76** CDW 112649
HP DDS-2 4/8GB 120M cartridge *HP C5707A* — **$10.50** CDW 143356
HP DDS-3 12/24GB 120M cartridge *HP C5708A* — **$24.39** CDW 139106
HP 20/70GB DLT tape IV cartridge *HP C5141F* — **$92.43** CDW 77698

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HP monitors

M50 15" monitor	**$299.00**	CDW 141369	*HP D5258A*
M70 17" monitor	**$449.00**	CDW 141374	*HP D5259A*
M90 19" monitor	**$599.00**	CDW 141375	*HP D6433A*

HP Pavilion Series

Model	Processor	RAM std./max.	Hard drive	CD-ROM	Video	Operating System	Additional features	Price	CDW	HP
4450	366MHz Celeron	64MB/256MB	6.4GB	32X	4MB	Windows 98	Multimedia keyboard	**$899.00**	141362	*HP D7350A*
6460	400MHz Celeron	96MB/256MB	9.6GB	32X	8MB	Windows 98	Multimedia keyboard	**$1099.00**	141367	*HP D7316A*
6470Z	400MHz Pentium II	96MB/256MB	12.7GB	32X	8MB	Windows 98	100MB Zip drive	**$1399.00**	141368	*HP D7336A*

All models feature 56K modem

Affordable business performance

HP Brio PC



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Leading-edge technology

◗ Intel Pentium® II or Intel Celeron™ processors ◗ Pentium II models feature 512KB Level 2 cache and 100MHz Front Side Bus ◗ Celeron models feature 128KB Level 2 cache and 66MHz Front Side Bus

Innovative design

◗ Innovative design packs rich features in compact styling for optimum value

Innovative productivity tools

◗ From one-touch keyboard access to the Internet to online troubleshooting and Windows operating systems, Brios have it all ◗ For added productivity, choose systems with award-winning productivity software or high-performance modems pre-installed

HP Brio Series

7000 Series	RAM std./max.	Hard drive	CD-ROM	Video	Operating System	Price	CDW	HP
333MHz Celeron	32MB/256MB	4.3GB	32X	2MB	Windows 98	**$821.34**	127852	*HP D7670T*
366MHz Celeron	32MB/256MB	4.3GB	—	2MB	Windows 98	**$832.89**	142739	*HP D7928A*
366MHz Celeron	64MB/256MB	8GB	32X	2MB	Windows 98	**$1025.17**	142742	*HP D7929A*
400MHz Celeron	64MB/256MB	8.4GB	32X	2MB	Windows 98	**$1047.78**	142743	*HP D7909A*
8000 Series	**RAM std./max.**	**Hard drive**	**CD-ROM**	**Video**	**Operating System**	**Price**	**CDW**	**HP**
350MHz Pentium II	32MB/384MB	4.3GB	—	4MB	Windows 98	**$1026.87**	135944	*HP D7900T*
350MHz Pentium II	32MB/384MB	8GB	32X	4MB	Windows 98*	**$1187.66**	127276	*HP D6637T*
400MHz Pentium II	64MB/384MB	8GB	32X	4MB	Windows NT V4.0	**$1392.30**	127275	*HP D6632B*
450MHz Pentium II	64MB/384MB	8GB	32X	4MB	Windows 98*	**$1654.51**	127277	*HP D6643A*

*Includes Microsoft Word 97

HP monitors

HP 50 15" monitor
$238.43 CDW 127958 *HP D2826A*

HP 70 17" monitor
$344.77 CDW 110431 *HP D2837A*

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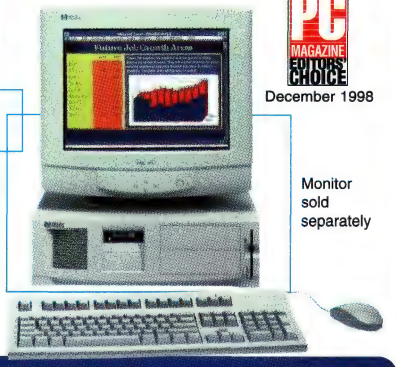
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December 1998

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HP Vectra VE Series PCs

Solid performance
- Intel Pentium® II or Intel Celeron™ processors
- Pentium II processors feature 512KB Level 2 cache and a 100MHz Front Side Bus
- Celeron models feature 128KB Level 2 cache and a 66MHz system bus

Based on compatibility and industry standards
- Certified PC97, "Designed for Windows NT and Windows 95"
- WfM baseline specifications enable software distribution and operating system upgrade
- DMI 2.0 compliant for easy asset management

Easy to manage
- HP TopTools provides Web-based asset management and user data protection
- Remote system installation possible via multiple remote boot protocols
- Hardware (system and LAN adapter) diagnostics for faster troubleshooting

HP Vectra VE Series

Desktop	L2 cache	Bus speed	RAM std./max	Hard drive	CD-ROM	Ethernet	Video	Operating System	Price	CDW	HP
333MHz Celeron	128KB	66MHz	32MB/384MB	3.2GB	–	–	4MB	Windows 95	$798.85	130671	*HP D6540T*
350MHz Pentium II	512KB	100MHz	32MB/384MB	3.2GB	–	–	4MB	Windows 95	$1074.93	118157	*HP D6570T*
350MHz Pentium II	512KB	100MHz	64MB/384MB	4.3GB	32X	–	4MB	Windows 95	$1228.08	143456	*HP D6573T*
366MHz Celeron	128KB	66MHz	32MB/384MB	4.3GB	–	–	4MB	Windows 95	$928.74	146027	*HP D6600T*
400MHz Pentium II	512KB	100MHz	32MB/384MB	3.2GB	–	–	4MB	Windows 95	$1191.04	130676	*HP D6580T*
450MHz Pentium II	512KB	100MHz	32MB/384MB	4.3GB	–	–	4MB	Windows 95	$1488.23	146256	*HP D6597T*
450MHz Pentium II	512KB	100MHz	64MB/384MB	4.3GB	32X	–	4MB	Windows 95	$1753.17	146257	*HP D6599N*
Mini-tower	**L2 cache**	**Bus speed**	**RAM std./max**	**Hard drive**	**CD-ROM**	**Ethernet**	**Video**	**Operating System**	**Price**	**CDW**	**HP**
350MHz Pentium II	512KB	100MHz	32MB/384MB	3.2GB	–	–	4MB	Windows 95	$1097.43	118938	*HP D6571A*
350MHz Pentium II	512KB	100MHz	64MB/384MB	4.3GB	32X	–	4MB	Windows 95	$1298.49	139751	*HP D6574A*
350MHz Pentium II	512KB	100MHz	64MB/384MB	6.4GB	32X	10/100	4MB	Windows 95/NT	$1451.93	130682	*HP D6575N*
366MHz Celeron	128KB	66MHz	32MB/384MB	4.3GB	–	–	4MB	Windows 95	$927.23	146258	*HP D6601T*
400MHz Pentium II	512KB	100MHz	64MB/384MB	6.4GB	32X	–	4MB	Windows 95	$1398.76	118165	*HP D6584T*
450MHz Pentium II	512KB	100MHz	64MB/384MB	6.4GB	32X	10/100	4MB	Windows 95/NT	$1881.07	141811	*HP D6595N*

HP NetServer LC 3 Series servers

Performance
- 350MHz, 400MHz or 450MHz Intel Pentium® II processors on a 100MHz system bus

Manageability
- Web based HP TopTools for Servers continuously monitors key environmental events and critical systems components
- Hot-swappable hard drives

Competitive advantage
- Chip upgradeable to second processor
- Supports 63GB of internal storage



HP NetServer LC 3 Series

Processor	RAM	Hard drive	CD-ROM	Price	CDW	HP
350MHz Pentium II	64MB	–	24X	$1984.07	121828	*HP D6123A*
350MHz Pentium II	64MB	4.2GB	24X	$2329.29	121831	*HP D6124T*
400MHz Pentium II	64MB	–	24X	$2352.49	121832	*HP D6125A*
400MHz Pentium II	64MB	4.2GB	24X	$2718.62	121833	*HP D6126T*
450MHz Pentium II	64MB	–	24X	$2710.82	131966	*HP D7028A*
450MHz Pentium II	64MB	9.1GB	24X	$3335.42	131967	*HP D7030T*



HP NetServer LH 3 Series servers

High system performance
- Uni or dual Intel Pentium® II processors
- Supports up to 1GB ECC 100MHz SDRAM

System features maximize server uptime
- Dual integrated Ultra2 SCSI controllers
- Unattended automatic server restart reboots system upon NOS hangs

Investment protection
- Chip upgrade to second Pentium II processor
- Disk drive cages support mixing of half-height and low profile drives

HP NetServer LH 3 Series

Processor	RAM	Price	CDW	HP
350MHz Pentium II	128MB	$4246.54	121834	*HP C4998A*
350MHz Pentium II*	128MB	$4798.93	121836	*HP D5002A*
400MHz Pentium II	128MB	$4798.52	121835	*HP D5000A*
400MHz Pentium II*	128MB	$5138.67	126511	*HP D5004A*
450MHz Pentium II	128MB	$5246.46	134617	*HP D7033A*
450MHz Pentium II*	128MB	$5752.34	133894	*HP D7034A*

*Rack model

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HP ProCurve switches

Model	Mbps	Ports	Managed	Max. Ports	Price	CDW	HP
212M	10	12	Yes	14	$539.48	126272	*HP J3298A*
224M	10	24	Yes	26	$899.41	126273	*HP J3299A*
1600M	10/100	16	Yes	16	$1398.71	119454	*HP J4120A*
2400M	10/100	24	Yes	24	$1274.19	124480	*HP J4122A*
4000M	10/100	40	Yes	80	$2198.91	126119	*HP J4121A*

HP ProCurve Series hubs

HP hubs keep you in control of your network

- **Quick set-up** with plug-and-play installation
- **Proactively finds problems** in the network, fixes them if possible and keeps you informed every step of the way
- **Great service and support** with HP's lifetime warranty



HP ProCurve hubs

Model	Mbps	Ports	Managed	Price	CDW	HP
Hub-12M	10	12	Yes	$338.31	122597	*HP J3301A*
Hub-24M	10	24	Yes	$612.39	111162	*HP J3303A*
Hub-12	10/100	12	No	$414.55	111161	*HP J3302A*
Hub-24	10/100	24	No	$689.18	126278	*HP J3295A*

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- All non-defective returns for credit or exchange are subject to a 15% restocking fee and must be completed within 30 days of the date of invoice.
- Please keep all packing material and documentation in the event that your equipment has to be serviced or returned.
- All products to be returned must be returned within 30 days from the invoice date, 100% complete, in resalable condition, and must include original packing material, manuals, blank warranty cards and other accessories provided by the manufacturer.
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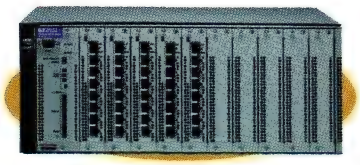
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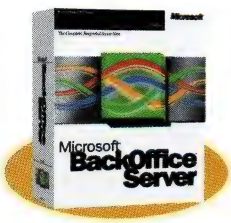
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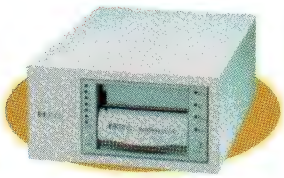


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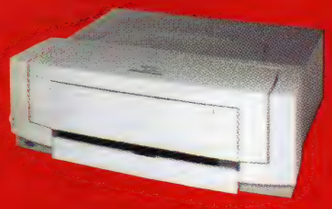
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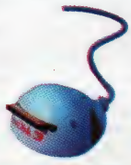
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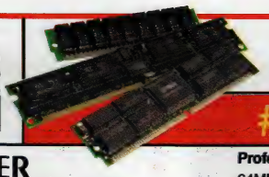
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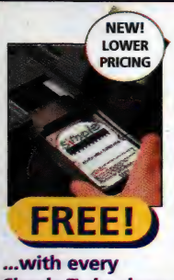
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PC 300PL Series desktops
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400/PII 64MB 6.4GB 32X 10/100 NT 1655.52
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HP VE Series desktops
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HP VE Series mini-towers
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400/PII 64MB 6.4GB 32X 1398.76
HP VL Series desktops
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HP VL Series mini-towers
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110CT 233MMX 32MB 4.3GB Win98 ..... 1698.68
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4010CDS 266/PII 32MB 4.1GB 12.1" DS 24X 1248.58
4010CDT 266/PII 32MB 4.1GB 12.1" AM 24X 1798.88
4020CDT 300/PII 64MB 6.4GB 13.3" AM 24X 2338.48
4030CDT 300/Cel 64MB 4.3GB 13.3" AM 1948.68
4060CDT 333/PII 64MB 4.3GB 13.3" AM 2358.48
4080XCDT 366/PII 64MB 6.4GB 14.1"AM 3097.87
Tecra notebooks
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8000 266/PII 64MB 4GB 12.1" AM 24X 2658.78
8000 300/PII 64MB 6.4GB 13.3" AM 24X 2998.48
8000 300/PII 64MB 6.4GB 14.1" AM 3487.67
8000 366/PII 64MB 8.1GB 24X 13.3" AM 3688.98
8000 366/PII 128MB 8.1GB DVD 14.1"AM 4348.78
Portege notebooks
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7000CT 266/PII 32MB 4.3GB 12.1" AM NT 2488.78
7000CT 266/PII 32MB 4.3GB 12.1" AM 2388.78
7010CT 300/PII 32MB 4GB 12.1" AM 2838.98
7010CT 300/PII 32MB 4.3GB 12.1" AM NT 2927.67
7020CT 366/PII 64MB 6.4GB 13.3" AM 98 ..... 3596.56
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720TX 300/PII 64MB 6GB 24X 13.3" AM 2539.89
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Prosignia 100 notebooks
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Armada notebooks
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1700 233/PII 32MB 4GB 12.1" AM NT 1928.88
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1700 300/PII 32MB 5GB 14.1" AM W95 ..... 2648.98
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1750 300/PII 32MB 4GB 13.3" AM 95 ..... 2587.57
1750 300/PII 32MB 4GB 13.3" AM NT 2688.78
1750 333/PII 64MB 6.4GB 13.3" AM 95 ..... 2986.56
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560Z 233/PII 32MB 4GB 12.1" AM NT 2247.87
560Z 300/PII 64MB 6.4GB 12.1" AM 2698.68
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600E 366/PII 64MB 6.4GB 24X 13.3" AM 3948.78
600E 366/PII 64MB 6.4GB DVD 13.3" AM 4047.87
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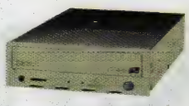
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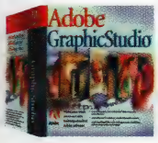


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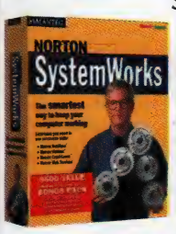


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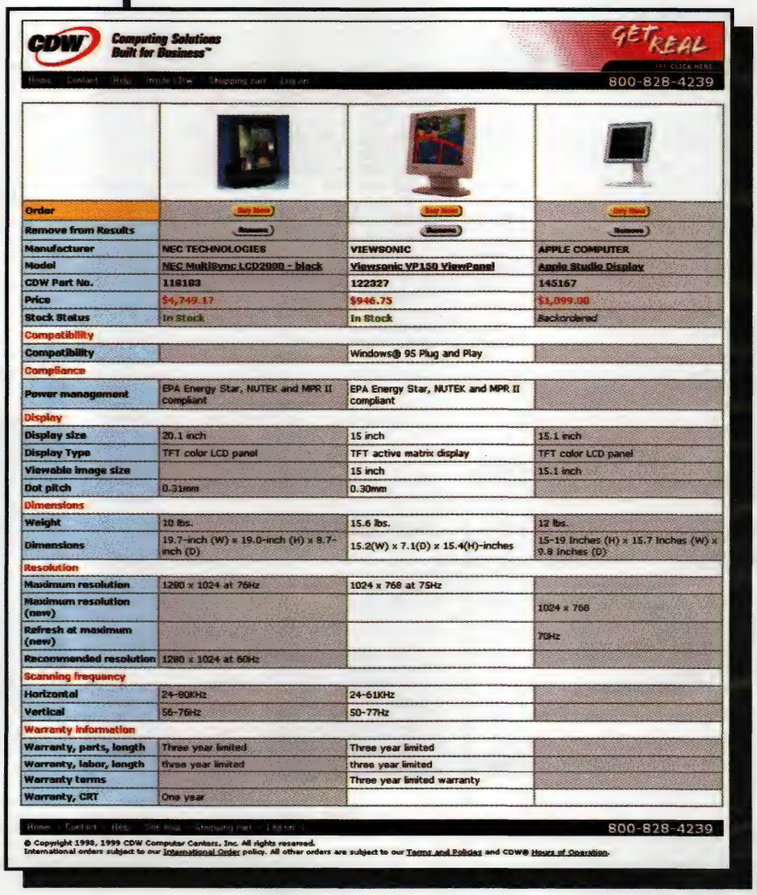
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Compatibility		Windows® 95 Plug and Play	
Compliance			
Power management	EPA Energy Star, NUTEK and MPR II compliant	EPA Energy Star, NUTEK and MPR II compliant	
Display			
Display size	20.1 inch	15 inch	15.1 inch
Display Type	TFT color LCD panel	TFT active matrix display	TFT color LCD panel
Viewable image size		15 inch	15.1 inch
Dot pitch	0.31mm	0.30mm	
Dimensions			
Weight	10 lbs.	15.6 lbs.	12 lbs.
Dimensions	19.7-inch (W) x 19.0-inch (H) x 8.7-inch (D)	15.2(W) x 7.1(D) x 15.4(H)-inches	15-19 inches (H) x 15.7 inches (W) x 9.8 inches (D)
Resolution			
Maximum resolution	1280 x 1024 at 76Hz	1024 x 768 at 75Hz	
Maximum resolution (new)			1024 x 768
Refresh at maximum (new)			70Hz
Recommended resolution	1280 x 1024 at 60Hz		
Scanning frequency			
Horizontal	24-80KHz	24-61KHz	
Vertical	56-76Hz	50-77Hz	
Warranty information			
Warranty, parts, length	Three year limited	Three year limited	
Warranty, labor, length	three year limited	three year limited	
Warranty terms		Three year limited warranty	
Warranty, CRT	One year		

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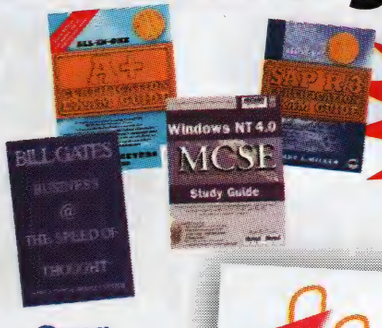
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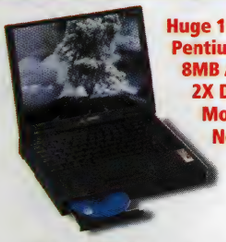
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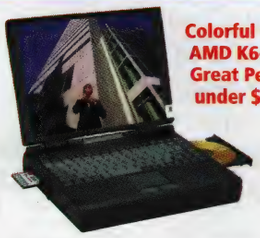
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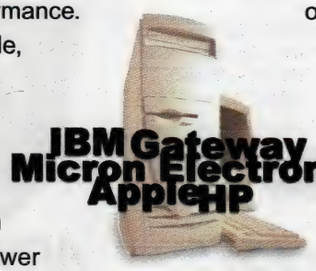
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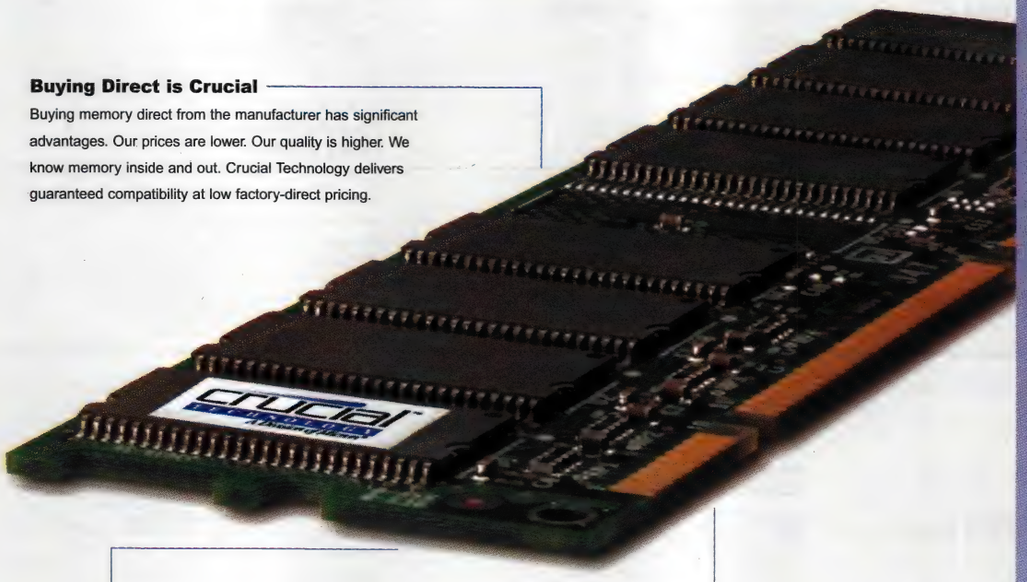
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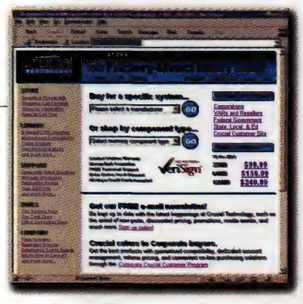
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- Microsoft Windows '95 **OR** '98 & Mouse
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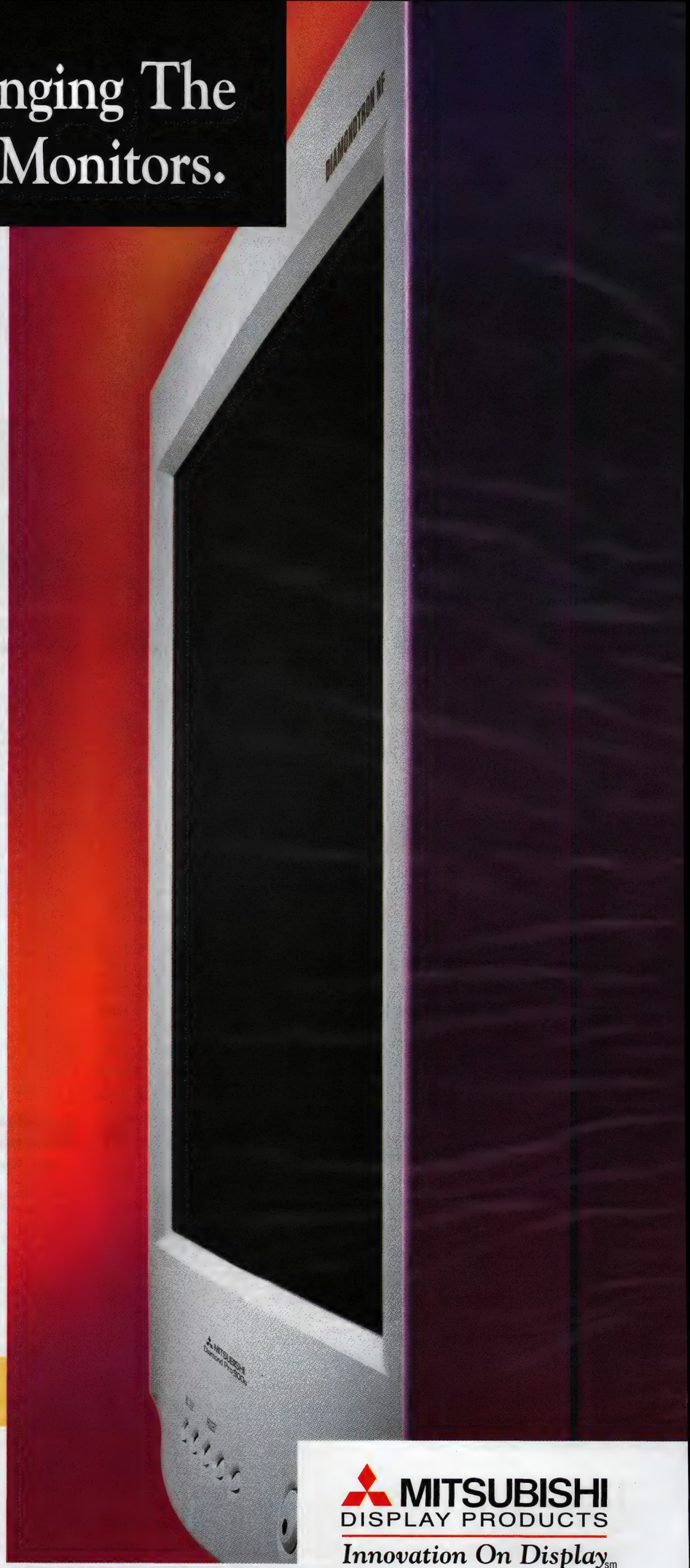
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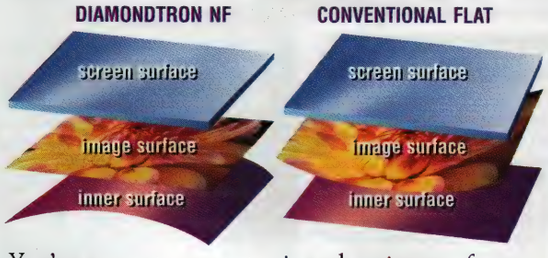
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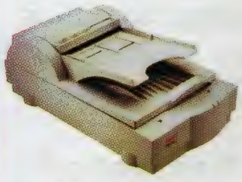
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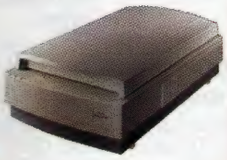
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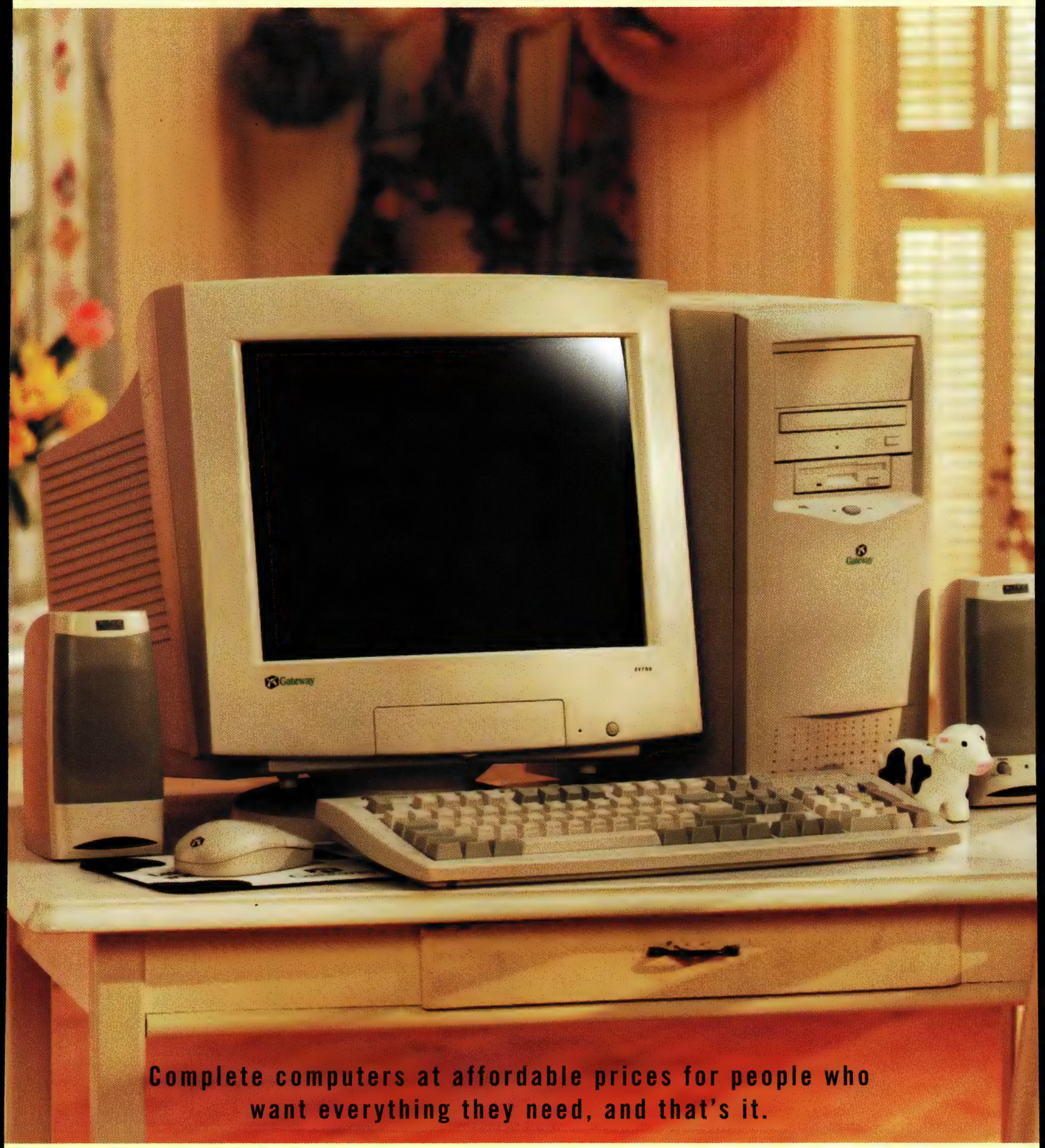
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of people want a computer
with lots of those cool
high-tech extras that they
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and will definitely use.



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- MultiFunction Keyboard & Mouse
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- SoundBlaster AudioPCI 64D
- Altec Lansing GCS-100 Speakers
- 56K[1] Internet/Fax Modem
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- 4.8X DVD-ROM Drive & MPEG2 Decoder
- 3.5" Diskette Drive
- SoundBlaster AudioPCI 64D
- Boston Acoustics® BA635™ 3-Piece Speaker System
- U.S. Robotics® 56K[1] Voice Winmodem®
- 8-Bay Mid-Tower Case
- MultiFunction Keyboard & Mouse
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- MS® Home Essentials™ Software
- Year 2000 Compliant[2]

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- 3.5" Diskette Drive
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- 3.5" Diskette Drive
- SoundBlaster AudioPCI 64D
- Boston Acoustics BA635 3-Piece Speaker System
- U.S. Robotics 56K[1] Voice Winmodem
- 8-Bay Micro-Tower Case
- MultiFunction Keyboard & Mouse
- Microsoft Windows 98
- MS Home Essentials Software
- Year 2000 Compliant[2]

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- 3.5" Diskette Drive
- SoundBlaster AudioPCI 64D
- Boston Acoustics Digital MediaTheater™ Dolby® Digital 3-Piece Speaker System
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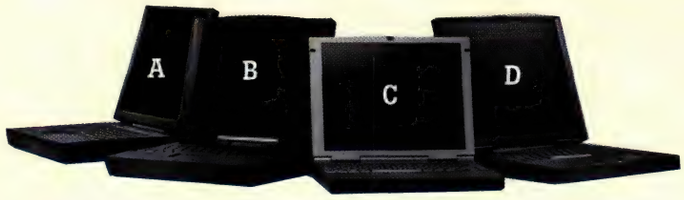
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- V.90 56K[1] Modem
- Casual Case, EZ Pad® Pointing Device
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- LapLink® V.7.5 for Windows 98 & McAfee® VirusScan
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- Lithium Ion Battery & AC Pack
- Two USB Ports, CardBus & Zoomed Video Support
- NTSC/PAL Video Input & Output
- 16-Bit Wavetable Sound & Altec Lansing® Speakers
- V.90 56K[1] Modem
- Deluxe Leather Case, EZ Pad Pointing Device
- Starting Weight: 8.6 lbs.[6]
- MS Windows 98
- MS Office 97, Small Business Edition plus Bookshelf 98 & FREE Office 2000 Upgrade Offer[5]
- LapLink V.7.5 for Windows 98 & McAfee VirusScan
- Year 2000 Compliant[2]

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- 64MB SDRAM (expandable to 160MB)
- 2.5MB 256-Bit Graphics Accelerator
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- Integrated V.90 Modem
- 6GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive with EZ S.M.A.R.T. Monitoring Protection Service
- Lithium Ion Battery & AC Pack
- USB Port, CardBus & Zoomed Video Support
- Integrated 16-Bit Sound & Stereo Speakers
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- Full-Size Keyboard
- Starting Weight: 5 lbs.[6]
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- MS Office 97, Small Business Edition plus Bookshelf® 98 & FREE Office 2000 Upgrade Offer[5]
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- 4GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive with EZ S.M.A.R.T. Monitoring Protection Service
- Lithium Ion Battery with Battery Gauge & AC Pack
- Two USB Ports, CardBus & Zoomed Video Support
- NTSC/PAL Video Output
- Integrated 16-Bit Sound & Stereo Speakers
- V.90 56K[1] Modem
- Casual Case, EZ Pad Pointing Device
- Starting Weight: 6.75 lbs.[6]
- MS Windows 98 & MS Home Essentials Software
- LapLink V.7.5 for Windows 98 & McAfee VirusScan
- Year 2000 Compliant[2]

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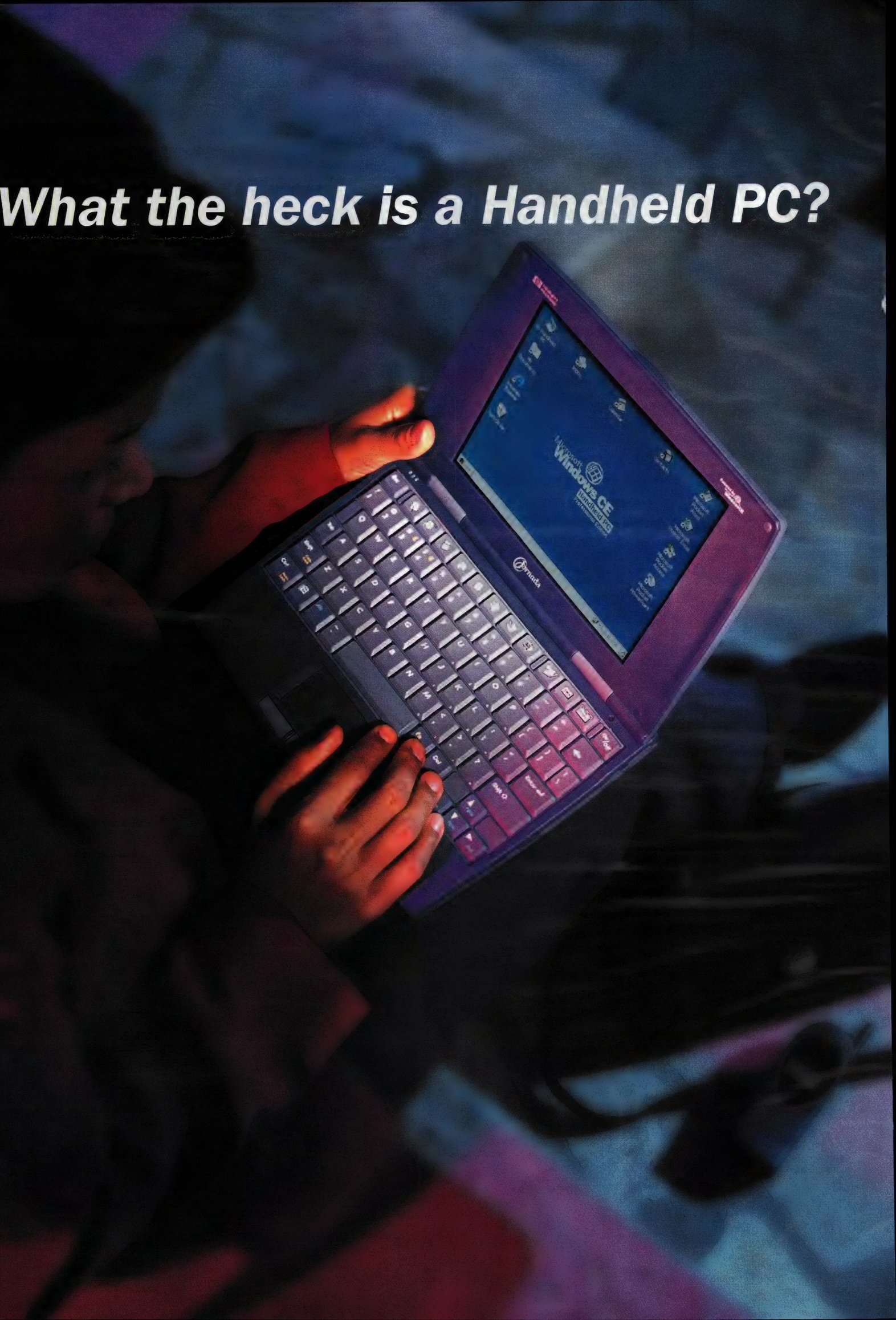
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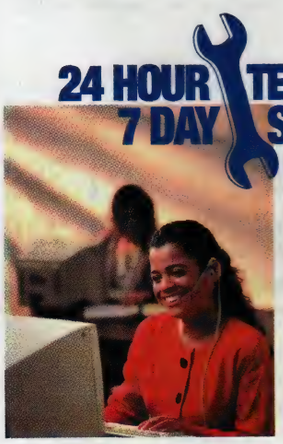
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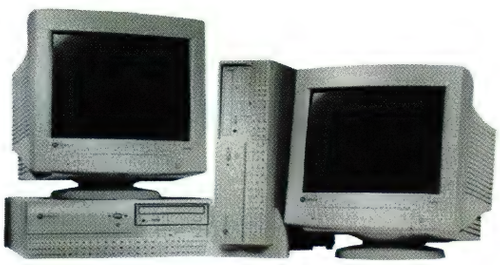
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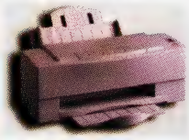
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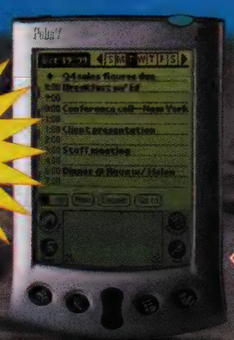
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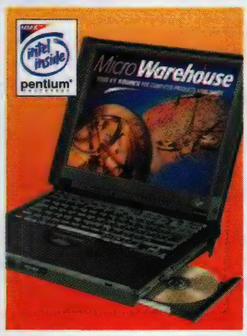
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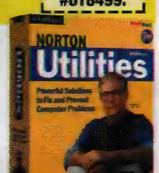


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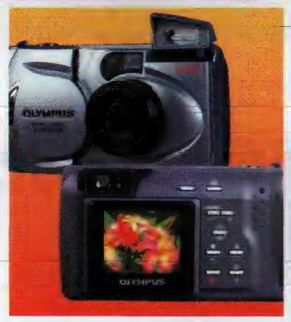


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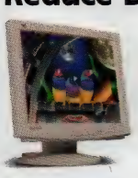
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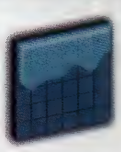
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Our Liquid Crystal Display or LCD monitors offer naturally brighter color than most conventional CRT monitors. The LCD technology makes ViewPanel images sharper and cleaner with less glare. The flicker-free images are easy on the eyes, causing less stress and increasing productivity. Plus, LCDs use less power and emit less heat for even more value.



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E² Series

The most affordable ViewSonic monitors available on the market. They offer a wise alternative to inexpensive, inferior brands. The E² Series is designed with educational and entry level needs and requirements in mind.

ViewSonic Model	CRT Size/ Viewable	Dot Pitch	Maximum Resolution	OnView® Digital Controls	Low Radiation
E641	14/13.2	0.28	1024 x 768	DIGITAL	MPRII
E651	15/13.7	0.28	1024 x 768	DIGITAL	MPRII
E655	15/13.8	0.28	1280 x 1024	YES	TCO '92
E771	17/16.0	0.27	1280 x 1024	YES	TCO '92

MultiMedia Series

These monitors are a perfect choice for all of your multimedia needs. The newest in the series, the MB110, is nothing like you've ever heard—or seen before with an Acoustic Design sound system engineered by the wizards at Nakamichi®.

ViewSonic Model	CRT Size/ Viewable	Dot Pitch	Maximum Resolution	TCO Low Radiation	Speakers
GA655	15/14.0	0.27	1280 x 1024	TCO '95	2-watt (X2)
EA771∞	17/16.0	0.27	1280 x 1024	MPRII	2-watt (X2)
GA771	17/16.0	0.27	1280 x 1024	TCO '95	3-watt (X2)
MB90**	19/18.0	0.26	1600 x 1280	TCO '95	5-watt (X2)
MB110**	21/20.0	0.26	1600 x 1280	TCO '92	5-watt (X2)

∞Also available in black bezel **Multi-port USB hub

Graphics Series

These monitors incorporate features normally found in much more expensive models. They are the ideal choice for applications ranging from desktop publishing to full office automation. The Graphics Series for general business was designed to maximize high performance and technology at a reasonable price.

ViewSonic Model	CRT Size/ Viewable	Dot Pitch	Maximum Resolution	TCO Low Radiation	OnView Digital Controls
G653	15/14.0	0.27	1280 x 1024	TCO '95	YES
G773**	17/16.0	0.26	1280 x 1024	TCO '95	YES
GS771*	17/16.0	0.27	1280 x 1024	TCO '95	YES
GT775†	17/16.0	0.25	1600 x 1200	TCO '95	YES
G790	19/18.0	0.26	1600 x 1280	TCO '95	YES
G810	21/20.0	0.25	1600 x 1280	TCO '92	YES

*Short Depth Monitor †Aperture Grille **Multi-port USB hub

Professional Series

These monitors fulfill the needs of the most discriminating user. The Professional Series is ideal for professional applications ranging from CAD/CAM/CAE to professional desktop publishing and graphic design.

ViewSonic Model	CRT Size/ Viewable	Dot Pitch/ Aperture Grille Pitch	Maximum Resolution	TCO Low Radiation
P655	15/14.0	0.27	1280 x 1024	TCO '95
PS775*	17/16.0	0.25	1600 x 1280	TCO '95
PT771†	17/16.0	0.25	1600 x 1280	TCO '95
PT775***	17/16.0	0.25	1600 x 1280	TCO '95
PS790*	19/18.0	0.25	1600 x 1280	TCO '95
PT795#**	19/18.0	0.25-0.27	1920 x 1440	TCO '99
P810	21/20.0	0.25	1600 x 1280	TCO '95
PT813†	21/20.0	0.28	1600 x 1280	TCO '95
P815	21/20.0	0.25	1800 x 1440	TCO '95
P817**	21/20.0	0.26	2048 x 1536	TCO '99

†Aperture Grille *Short Depth Monitor **Multi-port USB hub ***Multi-port USB hub and Short Depth #PerfectFlat

ViewPanel Series

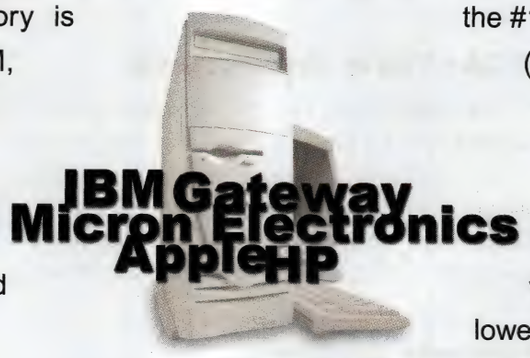
ViewSonic Model	Screen Viewable	Special Feature	Maximum Resolution	OnView® Digital Controls	Bezel Integrated Speakers
VP140	14.0	WALL MOUNTABLE	1024 x 768	YES	
VPA138	13.8	PIVOT	1024 x 768	YES	YES
VPA145	14.5	PIVOT	1024 x 768	YES	YES
VPA150	15.0	PIVOT	1024 x 768	YES	YES
VP150	15.0	WALL MOUNTABLE	1024 x 768	YES	
VPD150	15.0	PIVOT	1024 x 768	DIGITAL INTERFACE	YES
VG180	18.1	WALL MOUNTABLE	1280 x 1024	YES	

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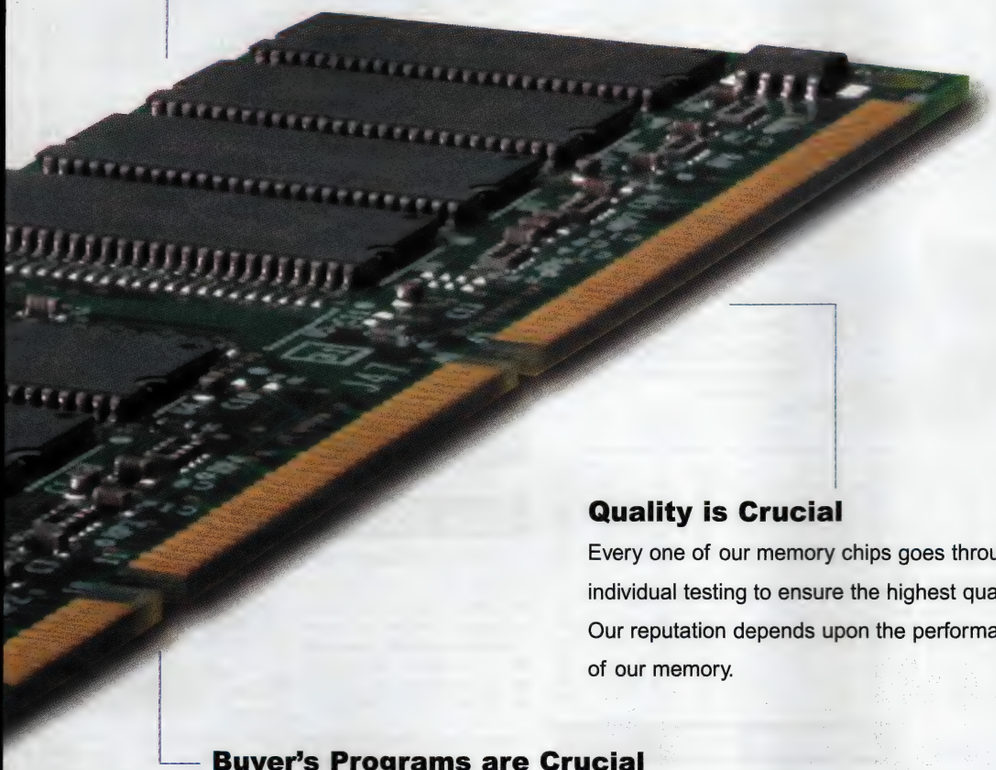
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Deskpro EN Series	$62.69	113.99	199.49
Deskpro EP Series	$62.69	113.99	199.49
Armada	$66.49	138.69	277.38

Micron Electronics	**32MB**	**64MB**	**128MB**
Millennia	$62.69	113.99	218.49
Home MPC	$106.38	189.98	379.96
Powerstation	$106.38	189.98	379.96
ClientPro	$62.69	113.99	218.49
Magnum	$106.38	189.98	379.96

Gateway	**32MB**	**64MB**	**128MB**
G Series	$62.69	113.99	199.49
E Series	$62.69	113.99	199.49
GP Series	$62.69	113.99	199.49
Family Series	$66.49	132.98	N/A

IBM	**32MB**	**64MB**	**128MB**
Aptiva	$62.69	113.99	199.49
PC 300 Series	$62.69	113.99	199.49
PC Server	$101.64	142.49	280.24
ThinkPad	$66.49	123.49	277.38

HP	**32MB**	**64MB**	**128MB**
Pavilion	$62.69	113.99	199.49
Kayak	$62.69	113.99	199.49
Brio	$62.69	113.99	218.49
Vectra Series	$62.69	113.99	218.49

Apple	**32MB**	**64MB**	**128MB**
iMAC	$66.49	123.49	246.98
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Armada 1750 Series									
#43112	1750	300 PII MMX	64	4.0GB	24X	13.3" TFT	56K	Win 95	$2,559
#43138	1750	333 PII MMX	64	6.4GB	24X	13.3" TFT	56K	Win 95	$2,949
#43145	1750	366 PII MMX	64	6.4GB	24X	14.1" TFT	56K	Win 95	$3,539
Prosignia SMB Series									
#42937	122	233 MPII MMX	32	4.0GB	24X	12.1" TFT	56K	Win 98	$2,239
#42975	144	333 MPII MMX	64	4.0GB	24X	13.3" TFT	56K	Win 98	$2,829
#42978	162	366 MPII MMX	32	6.4GB	24X	14.1" TFT	56K	Win 98	$3,279
New Armada 7800 Series									
#35469	7800	300 PII MMX	64	8.0GB	DVD	14.1" TFT	—	Win 95	$3,599
#43318	7800	366 PII MMX	64	14GB	DVD	14.1" TFT	56K	Win 95	$4,649
Armada 3500 Series									
#43168	3500	333 PII MMX	32	4.1GB	—	12.1" TFT	—	Win 95	$2,899
#43181	3500	366 PII MMX	64	6.4GB	—	13.3" TFT	—	Win 95	$3,579

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- 24X CD-ROM
- Windows 98

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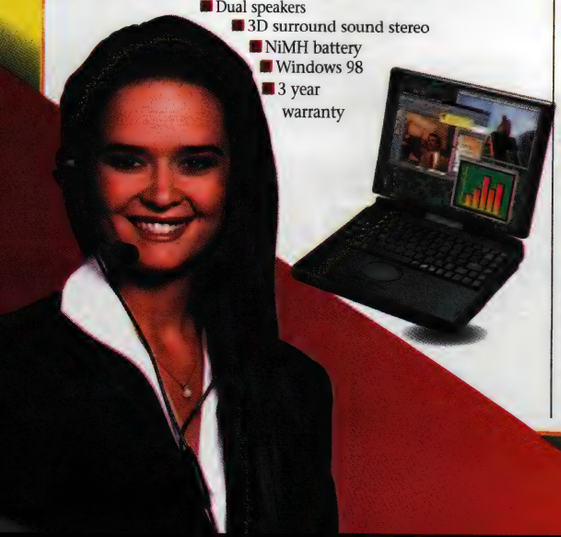
Order#	Model	Processor	RAM	HD	CD	Display	Modem	O/S	Price
#40901	1255	333 AMD-K6-2	32	4.0GB	24X	12.1" TFT	56K	Win 98	$1,399
#40904	1260	333 AMD-K6-2	64	4.0GB	24X	12.1" TFT	56K	Win 98	$1,599
#42171	1920	300 PII	64	6.4GB	2X-DVD	13.3" TFT	56K	Win 98	$2,799

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Price Drops!

Order#	Model	Pentium® processor	RAM	HD	CD	Display	Modem	Price	or Lease /Month
ThinkPad 380–*Ultra portability without compromise*									
#35180	TP380Z	300 PII	32	4.0GB	10-24X	13.3TFT	—	$2,269	$91
#35181†	TP380Z	300 PII	32	4.0GB	10-24X	13.3TFT	—	$2,499	$100
ThinkPad 390–*Ultra portability without compromise*									
#37639	TP390	233 P MMX	32	3.2GB	24X	12.1TFT	56K	$1,549*	$66
#38160	TP390	233 PII MMX	32	3.2GB	24X	12.1TFT	56K	$1,749*	$70
#38171	TP390	266 PII MMX	64	4.3GB	24X	14.1TFT	56K	$2,499	$100
ThinkPad 560–*Ultra portability without compromise*									
#35329*	TP560X	233 PII	32	4.0GB	—	12.1TFT	56K	$2,399**	$100
#35338*	TP560X	300 PII	64	6.4GB	—	12.1TFT	56K	$2,549**	$110
#35343†	TP560X	300 PII	64	6.4GB	—	12.1TFT	56K	$2,649**	$104

†Win NT *Win 98
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#42422	600E	366 PII	64	6.4GB	24X	13.3" TFT	56K	W98	$3,999	$160
#35190	600	300 PII	64	5.1GB	24X	13.3" TFT	56K	NT	$3,549	$142
#35193	600	300 PII	64	6.4GB	DVD	13.3" TFT	56K	W98	$3,649	$146
IBM ThinkPad 770–*Unrivaled power and performance*										
#42437	770Z	PII366	128	14.1GB	DVD	13.7" TFT	56K	W98	$4,749	$190
#42439	770Z	PII366	128	14.1GB	24X	13.7" TFT	56K	NT	$4,659	$186
#42441	770Z	PII366	128	14.1GB	DVD	14.1" TFT	56K	W98	$4,569	$183
#42442	770Z	PII366	128	14.1GB	24X	14.1" TFT	56K	NT	$4,479	$179

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#42512	PCGF160	300PII MMX	64	4.3GB	24X	14.1" TFT	V.90	Win 98	$1,999
#42537	PCGF180	333PII MMX	64	4.3GB	DVD	14.1" TFT	V.90	Win 98	$2,499
#42538	PCG838	366PII MMX	64	6.4GB	DVD	13.3" TFT	V.90	Win 98	$2,999
#42548	PCGF190	366PII MMX	64	6.4GB	DVD	14.1" TFT	V.90	Win 98	$3,299
#42559	PCG505TS	300P MMX	64	4.3GB	—	10.4" TFT	V.90	Win 98	$1,999
#42569	PCG505TX	300P MMX	64	6.4GB	—	10.4" TFT	V.90	Win 98	$2,499

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#39002	110CT	233 MMX	32	4.3GB	—	7.1" TFT	—	$1,697	$68
Satellite Series									
#37261	4020CDT	300 PII MMX	64	6.4GB	24X	13.3" TFT	56K	$2,399	$98
#43517	4080XCDT	366 PII MMX	64	6.4GB	24X	14.1" TFT	56K	$3,199	$128
#43523	4030CDT	300 Celeron	64	4.3GB	24X	13.3" TFT	56K	$1,999	$80
Portege									
#39052	3010CT	266 MMX	32	4.3GB	—	10.4" TFT	56K	$1,695	$70
#43512	7020CT	366 PII MMX	64	6.4GB	—	13.3" TFT	56K	$3,699	$148
Tecra Series–*Exceptional power, performance & multimedia versatility!*									
#43474	8000	366 PII MMX	128	8.1GB	DVD	14.1" TFT	—	$4,499	$180
#43475	8000	366 PII MMX	64	8.1GB	24X	13.3" TFT	—	$3,899	$156

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#36708	2127T	300 PII MMX	64	4.0GB	24X	13.3" TFT	W95	$3,039	$122
#36709	2127T	300 PII MMX	64	4.0GB	24X	13.3" TFT	NT	$3,129	$126

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#42859	535T	K6-2/350	32	4.0GB	24X	13.3" TFT	V.90	W98	$1,699

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#42732	310	300 Celeron	32	8.4GB	40X	T/D	Win98	$1,119
#38845	330	350 PII MMX	64	10GB	40X	T/D	Win98	$1,419
#38848	330	450 PII MMX	64	10GB	DVD	T/D	Win98	$1,719
Deskpro EP Series								
#42176	4300	400 Celeron MMX	32	4.3GB	—	T/D	Win95	$859
#42177	10000CDS	400 Celeron MMX	64	6.4GB	—	T/D	Win95	$1,119
#36296	4300	350 PII MMX	64	4.3GB	—	T/D	Win95	$1,129
#36314	10000CDS	400 PII MMX	64	10.0GB	32X	T/D	Win95	$1,479
#36315	10000CDS	450 PII MMX	64	10.0GB	32X	T/D	Win95	$1,589

T/D=towerable design

Presario 5070

COMPAQ

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- 32X CD
- 4GB hard drive
- 56Kbps modem
- Windows 98

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#40891	5204	350 AMD-K6-2	64MB	4.0GB	32X	56K	MT	Win 98	$799
#40893†	5220	380 AMD-K6-2	64MB	8.0GB	32X	56K	MT	Win 98	$899
#40894†	5240	400 AMD-K6-2	64MB	10GB	40X	56K	MT	Win 98	$999
#43313	5280	450 AMD-K6-2	64MB	12GB	40X	ADSL	MT	Win 98	$1,299
#40895	5670	450 PII MMX	128MB	19GB	DVD	ADSL	MT	Win 98	$1,999

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3 YEAR WARRANTY

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#42122	628722U	333 Celeron	32MB	4.2GB	—	W98	MI	$749
#42123	628732U	366 Celeron	32MB	4.2GB	—	W98	MI	$829
#42410	6275H1U	333 Celeron	32MB	4.2GB	—	W98	DT	$879
#42409	6275G3U	366 Celeron	32MB	4.2GB	—	W98	DT	$949
#42395	6275B9U	350 PII	32MB	4.2GB	—	W98	DT	$1,049
#42396	6275FIU	366 Celeron	32MB	4.2GB	32X	W98	DT	$1,099
#42133	628241U	350 PII	32MB	4.2GB	—	W98	MI	$1,099
#42392	6275B4U	350 PII	64MB	4.2GB	—	NT	DT	$1,179

Order#	Model	Processor	RAM	HD	CD	OS	Form	Price
#42397	6275M2U	400 PII	32MB	4.2GB	—	W98	DT	$1,179
#42394	6275B7U	350 PII	32MB	4.2GB	32X	W98	DT	$1,199
#42137	628761U	400 PII	32MB	4.2GB	—	W98	MI	$1,099
#42411	6275G1U	366 Celeron	64MB	8.4GB	32X	W98	MT	$1,229
#42139	628769U	400 PII	64MB	8.4GB	32X	NT	MI	$1,429
#42140	628785U	450 PII	64MB	8.4GB	32X	W98	MI	$1,499
#42142	628786U	450 PII	64MB	8.4GB	32X	NT	MI	$1,549

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#32902	D5890A	350 PII MMX	32	4.3GB	—	—	MT	Win®95/NT	$1,399	$56
#32883	D5881T	350 PII MMX	64	4.3GB	—	10/100	DT	Win®95/NT	$1,429	$58
#32900	D5882A	400 PII MMX	64	6.4GB	32X	—	DT	Win®95/NT	$1,599	$64
#32911	D5892A	350 PII MMX	64	6.4GB	32X	10/100	MT	Win®95/NT	$1,639	$66
#32917	D5894T	400 PII MMX	64	10.1GB	32X	10/100	MT	Win®95/NT	$1,759	$71
#37046	D5902T	450 PII MMX	64	6.4GB	32X	—	MT	Win®95/NT	$1,909	$77
#37035	D5883A	450 PII MMX	64	10.1GB	32X	10/100	DT	Win®95/NT	$2,089	$84

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Order#	Model	Processor	RAM	HD	CD	LAN	Form Factor	Operating System	Price	Lease per/mo.
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#32858	D6570T	350 PII	32MB	3.2GB	-	-	Win 95	DT	$1,039	$42
#32873	D6571A	350 PII	32MB	3.2GB		-	Win 95	MT	$1,099	$44
#37018	D6581T	400 PII	32MB	3.2GB	-	10/100	Win 95	MT	$1,259	$51
#37011	D6580T	400 PII	32MB	3.2GB	-	10/100	Win 95	DT	$1,259	$51
#32859	D6572N	350 PII	64MB	3.2GB	-	10/100	Win 95/NT	DT	$1,289	$52
#32874	D6584A	400 PII	64MB	6.4GB	32X	10/100	Win 95	MT	$1,359	$55
#37012	D6582N	400 PII	32MB	3.2GB	-	10/100	Win 95/NT	DT	$1,519	$61
#37020	D6595N	450 PII	64MB	6.4GB	32X	10/100	Win NT/95	MT	$1,879	$78

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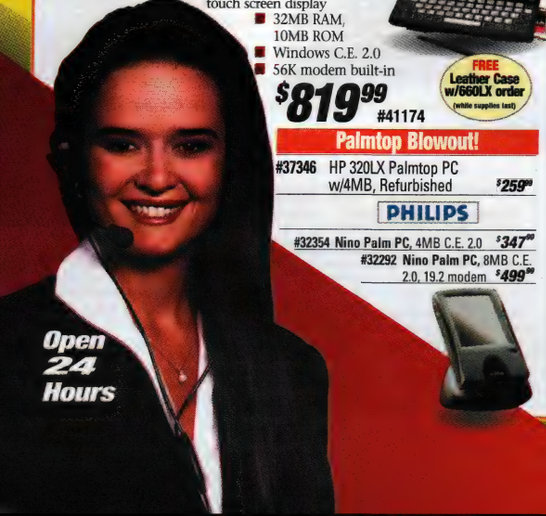


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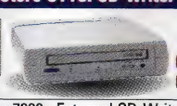
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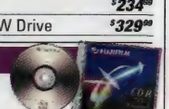
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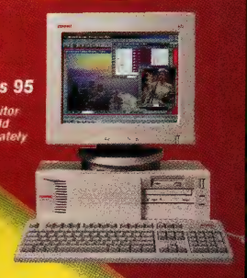
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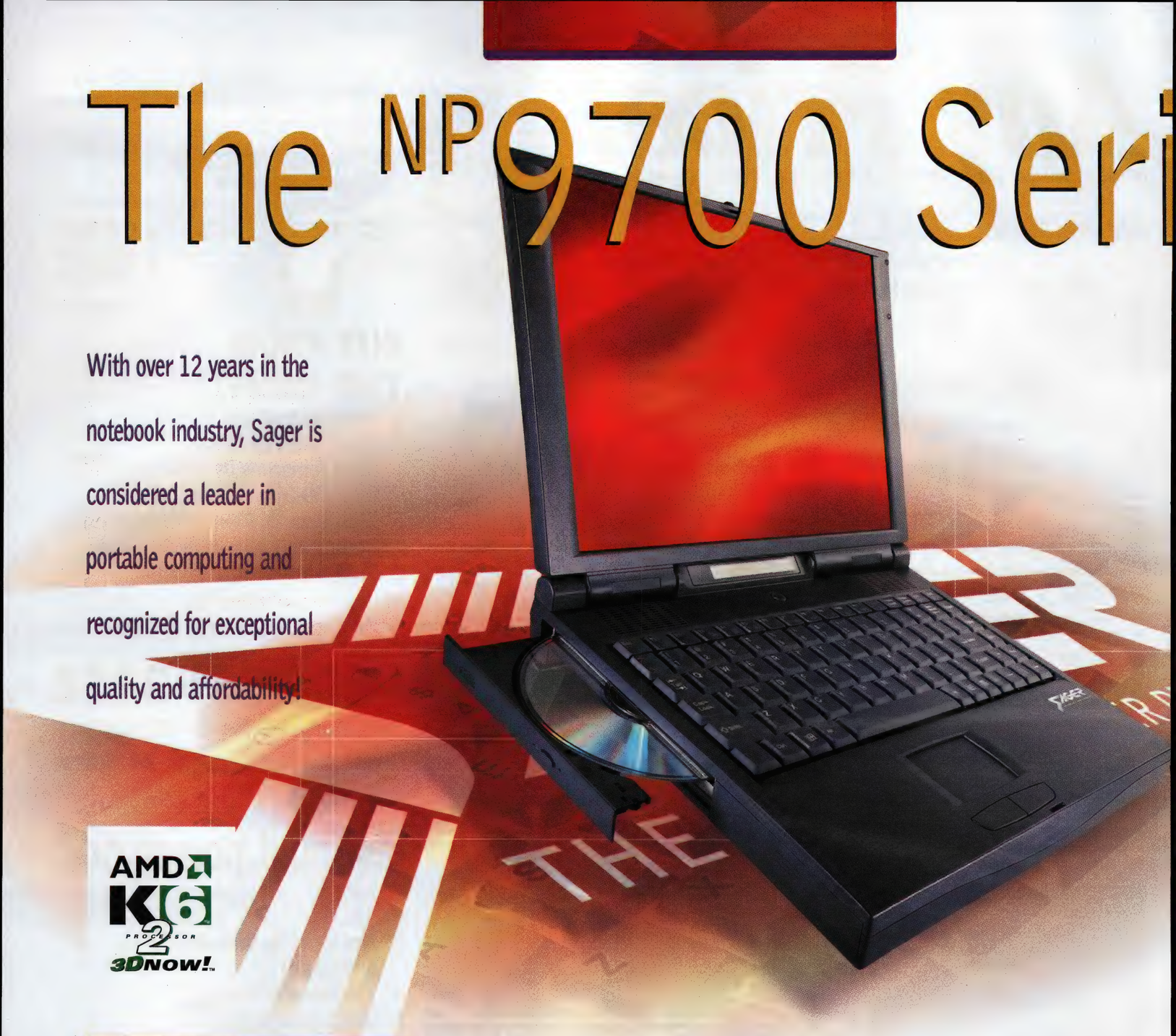
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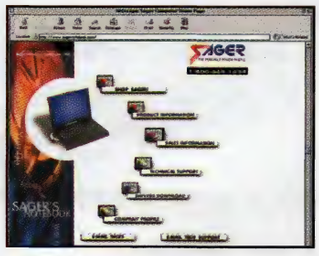
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- 56K v.90 PCI Voice Fax Modem
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- 3 Year Limited Warranty

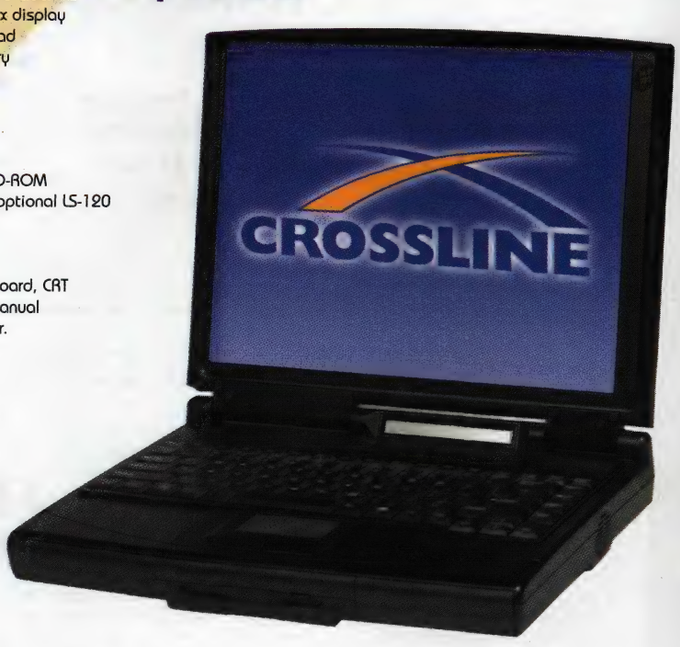
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- Intel i740 8MB 3D AGP 2X Video
- 40X CD-ROM Drive
- Yamaha 3D PCI Sound Card
- 56K v.90 PCI Voice Fax Modem
- 1.44MB Floppy Drive
- 3D Sound System with SubWoofer
- ATX Mid Tower Case
- 104 Win 98 Keyboard, Microphone & Mouse
- MS® Windows® 98
- 98 Gold CD Tittle Bundle
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- 3 Year Limited Warranty

Pentium® III Processor 500MHz	$ 1638
Pentium® II Processor 450MHz	$ 1358
Pentium® II Processor 350MHz	$ 1078
Celeron' 400MHz with 128KB	$ 1028
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- 19" .27dp Digital Monitor MPRII
- Creative Labs RIVA TNT 16MB AGP
- 5X DVD-ROM Drive
- Yamaha 3D PCI Sound Card
- 56K v.90 PCI Voice Fax Modem
- 1.44MB Floppy Drive
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- ATX Mid Tower Case
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- 56K v.90 PCI Voice Fax Modem
- 1.44MB Floppy Drive
- 3D Sound System with SubWoofer
- ATX Mid Tower Case
- Multimedia Keyboard
- MS® Windows® 98 & IntelliMouse
- Ability Office CD Software
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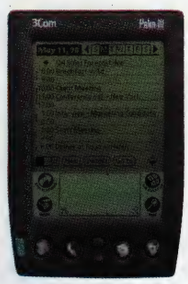
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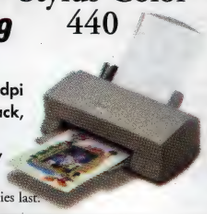
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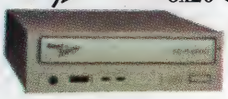
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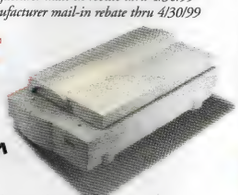
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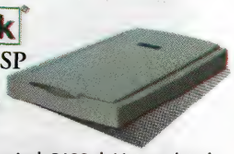


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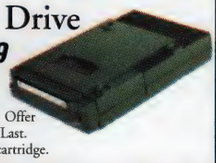


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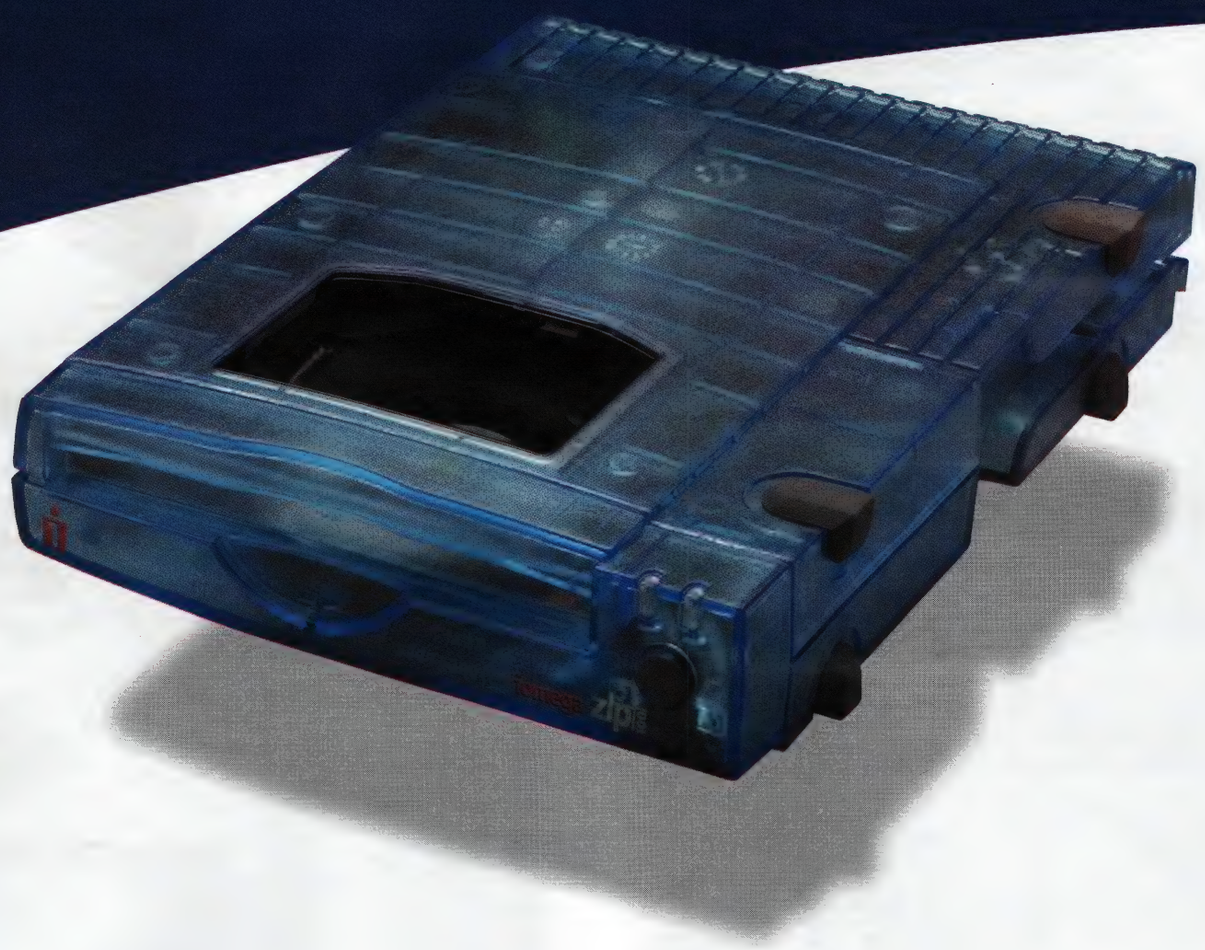
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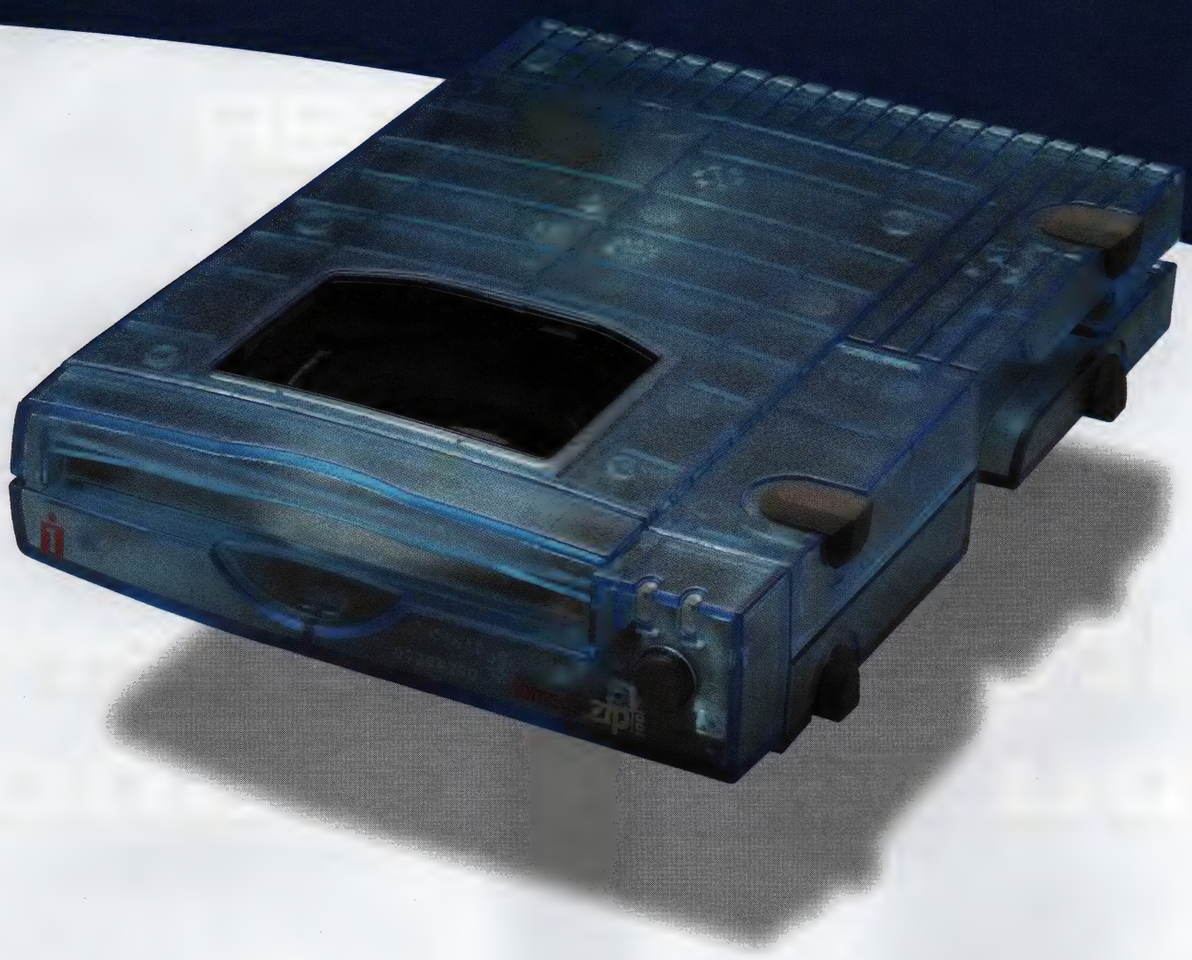


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REALITY BITES

I thought Tami D. Peterson's February "Personal Shopper" column, "Rebate Realities," was well-done. (See p. 134.) One tip I'd like to offer is to send in rebate forms by certified mail. It costs $1, but since you have proof that it was sent before the deadline, you are pretty well guaranteed to get the rebate. The price you pay to send certified mail reduces your rebate by a dollar, but it's better than not getting your refund at all.

One thing you neglected to mention is that the companies usually take a while to send your rebate. You must be patient; 12 to 16 weeks is normal.

Bob Lawson
via the Internet

In response to the "Rebate Realities" column: I would have liked to have seen statistics about the actual number of rebates customers send in. I think that a significant number of buyers are lured into buying because of a rebate that they probably fail to send for in the long run.

I also believe that most fulfillment houses' primary objective is to deny rebates rather than to process them. This results in more money in the pockets of the sellers.

I think that rebate protocols can be absurd, as when companies ask for proof that you bought the product. Consider a rebate on a muffler repair: You bring in your automobile for the muffler, and it's installed. Now, how much more "proof" do they need? For this reason, I'd like to see rebates applied at the time of purchase.

Kirk Bubul
via the Internet

After reading Tami Peterson's "Rebate Realities," I wanted to say that I've had so many bad experiences with rebates, I cannot understand why the manufacturers don't just let us take the discount at the time of purchase. If the companies want data, we can fill out certificates in the store to claim discounts. Because we pay sales tax on the full amount of the purchase, we never really pay the actual amount quoted by the vendor—the amount of the purchase minus the value of the rebate. Furthermore, with rebated mail-order items, you also pay shipping charges.

Jean Bourvic
via the Internet

THE WAIT FOR THE WEB

Thanks for the February Shopper's Guide to ISDN Adapters and V.90 Modems. (See "Express Delivery," p. 300.) I certainly see the need for faster modems, but when the Internet itself transfers information at much slower speeds than the modems are capable of handling, it becomes pointless to upgrade. I would have liked to see information included on what's happening to speed up the Net's data-transfer rates. Personally, I won't consider DSL, ISDN, or cable modems until the backbone gets much faster.

Jay Figueroa
via the Internet

SWEET SOUNDS OF MP3

I thought Jon Halpin's Trends and Technology feature, "PCs Get Wired for Audio With MP3," which ran in the February issue, was great. (See p. 130.) But the last portion of the piece seemed to ignore the option most used by MP3 enthusiasts—that is, putting your CD collection onto your PC so you can create custom play lists and custom CDs. MusicMatch JukeBox, which was mentioned, is an application that handles every part of creating your own MP3s.

I'd also like to mention that I don't think most people are downloading the illegal stuff because frankly, it's too time-consuming, besides being illegal.

Joeli Nelson-Payne
via the Internet

In response to Jon Halpin's February article on MP3, I'd like to point out that the music industry thought that cassettes were going to ruin the recording industry. The truth is, cassettes didn't ruin the industry, they helped boost the industry. Piracy will always exist, whether it occurs with CDs, videotapes, or MP3s. If the industry concerns itself with delivering quality products, I believe the consumers will continue to buy those products.

Adolph Lopez
via the Internet

THE POWER PRINCIPLE

In the February "Alfred Poor's Computer Cures" column, "Looking for Clean Power" offers advice on PC-related power issues and problems. (See the Tech Section, p. 413.) UPSs can address the voltage-drop threat he discusses. It may be slightly more expensive to buy a UPS than to follow the other recommendations presented, but it's an easier solution than one that requires moving the computer to a separate circuit.

Several UPS manufacturers come to mind. APC has a good reputation, as does the lesser-known Best Power. Best Power also supports some alternative operating systems, such as Linux.

A UPS should compensate for voltage drops and filter power. Another nice benefit of a UPS is that it can provide notification of total power failure, although this feature may be overkill in the home environment.

Paul English
via the Internet

COMING NEXT MONTH!

Networking Comes Home
Home networking is finally ready for prime time, so we've prepared a special report focusing on the emerging technologies and players shaping this new market. You'll learn the benefits of networking your PCs, what you need to accomplish it, and just how simple the process can be.

Power to the Portables
Once again, chip maker Intel has boosted the speed of its mobile processors. These 366MHz Pentium II rocket chips are powering a new fleet of desktop-replacement portables, and our comparative report will let you know which might pose a threat to your desktop PC.

Pixels Aplenty
Here's a pretty picture: a new set of megapixel cameras that sell for less than $600, yet don't skimp on features and capabilities. Our Hardware roundup has all the details to help you focus on the best camera for you.

Accounting for Small Businesses
Your small business may not have a dedicated department or even a properly educated accountant handling your books, but anyone who's ever had to wrestle with the numbers knows it's a full-time job. Our Software section examines several accounting packages and explains which will best suit the needs of your small business.

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- 40X Max≈ Variable CD-ROM Drive
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- harman/kardon HK-195 Speakers
- 3Com USR V.90ᵐ PCI WinModem
- Trial Offer ConnectDirect℠ Internet Access√
- Iomega 100MB ZIP BUILT-IN Drive
- MS Office 97 SBE plus Bookshelf (Ask about Our *FREE* MS Office 2000 Upgrade Offer); McAfee VirusScan
- MS Windows 98/IntelliMouse
- APC SurgeStation Pro8T2
- 3-Year Limited Warranty†
- 1-Year NBD On-site^ Service

$2179

Business Lease◊: $73/Mo., 36 Mos.

E•VALUE CODE: 05547-590321

NEW DELL DIMENSION XPS T450
PENTIUM III PROCESSOR AT 450MHz

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- 512KB Integrated L2 Cache
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- *NEW* 17" (16.0" viewable, .26dp) M780 Monitor
- 8MB ATI XPERT 98D AGP Graphics
- 40X Max≈ Variable CD-ROM Drive
- Yamaha XG 64V Wavetable Sound
- harman/kardon HK-195 Speakers
- 3Com USR V.90ᵐ PCI WinModem
- Trial Offer ConnectDirect Internet Access√
- MS Office 97 SBE plus Bookshelf (Ask about Our *FREE* MS Office 2000 Upgrade Offer); McAfee VirusScan
- MS Windows 98/IntelliMouse
- 3-Year Limited Warranty†
- 1-Year NBD On-site^ Service

★ *Upgrade to 128MB 100MHz SDRAM, add $60.*

$1899

Business Lease◊: $64/Mo., 36 Mos.

E•VALUE CODE: 05547-590318

DELL DIMENSION V400
PENTIUM II PROCESSOR AT 400MHz

- 64MB 100MHz SDRAM
- 512KB Integrated L2 Cache
- 8.4GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive
- *NEW* 17" (16.0" viewable, .26dp) M780 Monitor
- 8MB ATI 3D AGP Graphics
- 40X Max≈ Variable CD-ROM Drive
- Yamaha XG 64V Wavetable Sound
- harman/kardon HK-195 Speakers
- Iomega 100MB ZIP BUILT-IN Drive
- MS Office 97 SBE plus Bookshelf (Ask about Our *FREE* MS Office 2000 Upgrade Offer); McAfee VirusScan
- MS Windows 98
- Dell QuietKey Keyboard
- Logitech First Mouse+ Wheel (PS/2v)
- 3-Year Limited Warranty†
- 1-Year NBD On-site^ Service

★ *Upgrade to a NEW 12.9GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive, add $69.*

$1579

Business Lease◊: $53/Mo., 36 Mos.

E•VALUE CODE: 05547-590315

DELL DIMENSION V333c
INTEL® CELERON™ PROCESSOR AT 333MHz

Network-Designed Desktop

- 32MB SDRAM
- 128KB Integrated L2 Cache
- 8.4GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive
- 15" (13.8" viewable) 800F Monitor
- 8MB ATI 3D AGP Graphics
- 32X Max^ Variable CD-ROM Drive
- Integrated Intel 10/100 Ethernet Controller
- MS Office 97 SBE plus Bookshelf (Ask about Our *FREE* MS Office 2000 Upgrade Offer); McAfee VirusScan
- MS Windows 98
- Dell QuietKey Keyboard
- Logitech First Mouse+ Wheel (PS/2v)
- Intel LANDesk® Client Manager v3.3
- 3-Year Limited Warranty†
- 1-Year NBD On-site^ Service

★ *Upgrade to a NEW 17" (16.0" viewable, .26dp) M780 Monitor, add $59.*

$1199

Business Lease◊: $40/Mo., 36 Mos.

E•VALUE CODE: 05547-590311

POWER UPGRADES

- Iomega 100MB ZIP BUILT-IN Drive with Two Disks, add $99.
- 3Com USRobotics V.90ᵐ PCI Telephony WinModem, add $49.
- 3Com 3C905B 10/100 NIC, add $50.
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- *Fortune*-1998 Readers' Choice Award for Personal Service and Reliability, 11/98.

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- Microsoft Windows 98/Touchpad
- 3-Year Limited Warranty[†]

$2999

Business Lease[o]: $100/Mo., 36 Mos.

E•VALUE CODE: 05548-890329

NEW DELL INSPIRON 7000 A333GT
PENTIUM II PROCESSOR AT 333MHz

All-in-One Multimedia Performance

- 14.1" XGA Active Matrix Display
- 32MB SDRAM (384MB Max[o])
- 4GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive
- Removable Combo 24X Max[^^] Variable CD-ROM and Floppy Drive
- 2X AGP 4MB ATI RAGE Pro 3D Video
- 3D Surround Sound and HW Wavetable
- 12-Cell Intelligent Lithium Ion Battery
- Second Intelligent Lithium Ion Battery
- Internal 56K Capable[π] V.90 Fax Modem
- Trial Offer ConnectDirect Internet Access[√]
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- Microsoft Windows 98/Touchpad
- 3-Year Limited Warranty[†]

$2699

Business Lease[o]: $90/Mo., 36 Mos.

E•VALUE CODE: 05548-890326a

NEW DELL INSPIRON 3500 A300GT
PENTIUM II PROCESSOR AT 300PE MHz

Light Weight, Light Price

- 14.1" XGA Active Matrix Display
- 32MB SDRAM (256MB Max)
- 3.2GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive
- Modular 24X Max[^^] Variable CD-ROM
- Modular Floppy Drive
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- 3D Surround Sound and SW Wavetable
- 9-Cell Intelligent Lithium Ion Battery
- APC Notebook Surge Protector
- Internal 56K Capable[π] V.90 Fax Modem
- Trial Offer ConnectDirect Internet Access[√]
- MS Office 97 SBE (Ask about Our *FREE* MS Office 2000 Upgrade Offer)
- Microsoft Windows 98/Touchpad
- 3-Year Limited Warranty[†]

$2299

Business Lease[o]: $77/Mo., 36 Mos.

E•VALUE CODE: 05548-890322

DELL INSPIRON 3500 A266XT
PENTIUM II PROCESSOR AT 266PE MHz

Light Weight, Light Price

- 13.3" XGA Active Matrix Display
- 32MB SDRAM (256MB Max)
- 3.2GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive
- Modular 24X Max[^^] Variable CD-ROM
- Modular Floppy Drive
- NeoMagic MediaMagic 256AV AGP Video
- 3D Surround Sound and SW Wavetable
- 9-Cell Intelligent Lithium Ion Battery
- MS Office 97 SBE (Ask about Our *FREE* MS Office 2000 Upgrade Offer)
- Microsoft Windows 98/Touchpad
- 3-Year Limited Warranty[†]

★ *Upgrade to 64MB SDRAM, add $99.*

★ *Internal 56K Capable[π] V.90 Fax Modem, add $59.*

$1999

Business Lease[o]: $67/Mo., 36 Mos.

E•VALUE CODE: 05548-890319

NEW DELL LATITUDE™ CPi A366XT
PENTIUM II PROCESSOR AT 366MHz

Network-Optimized Notebook

- 13.3" XGA Active Matrix Display
- 64MB SDRAM (256MB Max)
- 4.3GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive
- Modular 24X Max[^^] Variable CD-ROM
- Modular Floppy Drive
- NeoMagic MediaMagic 256AV AGP Video
- 3D Surround Sound and SW Wavetable
- Intelligent Lithium Ion Battery with 1-Hour ExpressCharge™ Technology
- Custom Leather Case
- MS Windows NT® Workstation 4.0
- Touchpad
- 3-Year Limited Warranty[†]
- 1-Year NBD On-site[Δ] Service

★ *MS Windows 98 Available, subtract $85.*

$3199

Business Lease[o]: $87/Mo., 36 Mos.

E•VALUE CODE: 05548-790331

DELL LATITUDE CPi D233ST
PENTIUM II PROCESSOR AT 233MHz

Network-Optimized Notebook

- 12.1" SVGA Active Matrix Display
- 64MB EDO RAM (256MB Max)
- 4.3GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive
- Modular 24X Max[^^] Variable CD-ROM
- Modular Floppy Drive
- NeoMagic 128-bit Graphics Accelerator
- 3D Surround Sound and SW Wavetable
- Intelligent Lithium Ion Battery with 1-Hour ExpressCharge Technology
- MS Windows NT Workstation 4.0
- Touchpad
- 3-Year Limited Warranty[†]
- 1-Year NBD On-site[Δ] Service

★ *MS Windows 98 Available, subtract $85.*

★ *Upgrade to 96MB EDO RAM, add $99.*

$2399

Business Lease[o]: $80/Mo., 36 Mos.

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DELL NOTEBOOK AWARD INFO

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DELL® POWEREDGE® 6300 SERVER
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- Three 9GB 10,000 rpm Ultra-2/LVD SCSI Hot-Swap Hard Drives
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$12,899

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DELL POWEREDGE 4300 SERVER
PENTIUM II PROCESSOR AT 400MHz
(DUAL PROCESSOR/RAID CAPABLE)

- 128MB 100MHz ECC SDRAM
- 512KB Integrated L2 ECC Cache
- 9GB Ultra-2/LVD SCSI Hard Drive (Hot-Swap Optional)
- 32X Max^ Variable SCSI CD-ROM Drive
- HP OpenView NNM Special Edition
- Dual Intel Pro/100+ PCI Ethernet Adapters with Adaptive Fault Tolerance Software
- Integrated Ultra-2/LVD and Ultra/Narrow SCSI Controllers
- Redundant Hot-Swap Power Supplies, Cooling Fans and Processor Fans
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- 4-5.25" Media Bays
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- 1-Year DirectLine NOS Support
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Business Lease◊: $201/Mo., 36 Mos.

E•VALUE CODE: 05549-290359

DELL POWEREDGE 2300 SERVER
NEW PENTIUM III PROCESSOR AT 500MHz
(RAID 5 CONFIGURATION)

- 128MB 100MHz ECC SDRAM
- 512KB Integrated L2 ECC Cache
- Three 9GB Ultra-2/LVD SCSI Hot-Swap Hard Drives
- Ultra-2/LVD PowerEdge Expandable RAID Controller 2/Single-Channel
- 32X Max^ Variable SCSI CD-ROM Drive
- HP OpenView NNM Special Edition
- Intel Pro/100+ PCI Ethernet Adapter
- Integrated Ultra-2/LVD and Ultra/Narrow SCSI Controllers
- 6 Expansion Slots: 4 PCI, 2 PCI/ISA
- 6-1" Hard Drive Bays
- 4 Media Bays: 3-5.25", 1-3.5"
- 3-Year Next-Business-Day On-site^ Service
- 7x24 Dedicated Server Hardware Telephone Technical Support

★ *Add a 9GB Ultra-2/LVD SCSI Hard Drive, $599.*

★ *Upgrade to 256MB 100MHz ECC SDRAM, add $389.*

★ *APC Smart-UPS 700W Power Supply, add $369.*

$5549

Business Lease◊: $186/Mo., 36 Mos.

E•VALUE CODE: 05549-290355

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Must purchase a PowerEdge server to be eligible for installation services

DELL SERVER AWARD INFO

- *Network World* "World Class Award" Dell PowerEdge 2300, 6/98.
- *Computer Shopper* "Top 100" – Dell PowerEdge 2300, 11/98.
- *PC Computing*'s "The 'A' List" – Dell PowerEdge 6300, 11/98.
- *LANTIMES* "The Best of *LANTIMES* Over $25,000" – Dell PowerEdge 6300, 9/98.
- *ComputerWorld*'s "Leaders' Choice" Winner Workgroup Servers – Dell PowerEdge Family, 1/98.

Advertised configurations vary from award-winning configurations.

DELL POWEREDGE 2300 SERVER
NEW PENTIUM III PROCESSOR AT 450MHz
(DUAL PROCESSOR/RAID CAPABLE)

- 64MB 100MHz ECC SDRAM
- 512KB Integrated L2 ECC Cache
- 9GB Ultra-2/LVD SCSI Hard Drive (Hot-Swap Optional)
- 32X Max^ Variable SCSI CD-ROM Drive
- Microsoft® Windows NT® Server 4.0 (10 Client Access Licenses)
- HP OpenView NNM Special Edition
- Intel Pro/100+ PCI Ethernet Adapter
- Integrated Ultra-2/LVD and Ultra/Narrow SCSI Controllers
- 6 Expansion Slots: 4 PCI, 2 PCI/ISA
- 4-1.6" or 6-1" Hard Drive Bays
- 4 Media Bays: 3-5.25", 1-3.5"
- 3-Year Next-Business-Day On-site^ Service
- 7x24 Dedicated Server Hardware Technical Telephone Support

★ *Upgrade to a Pentium III Processor at 500MHz, add $300.*

★ *12/24GB Variable SCSI DAT Tape Backup Unit, add $749.*

★ *Dell Remote Assistant Card 2 with PCMCIA Modem, add $649.*

$3949

Business Lease◊: $132/Mo., 36 Mos.

E•VALUE CODE: 05549-290339

DELL POWEREDGE 2300 SERVER
PENTIUM II PROCESSOR AT 350MHz
(DUAL PROCESSOR/RAID CAPABLE)

- 64MB 100MHz ECC SDRAM
- 512KB Integrated L2 ECC Cache
- 4GB Ultra-2/LVD SCSI Hard Drive (Hot-Swap Optional)
- 32X Max^ Variable SCSI CD-ROM Drive
- HP OpenView NNM Special Edition
- Intel Pro/100+ PCI Ethernet Adapter
- Integrated Ultra-2/LVD and Ultra/Narrow SCSI Controllers
- 6 Expansion Slots: 4 PCI, 2 PCI/ISA
- 4-1.6" or 6-1" Hard Drive Bays
- 4 Media Bays: 3-5.25", 1-3.5"
- 3-Year Next-Business-Day On-site^ Service
- 7x24 Dedicated Server Hardware Technical Telephone Support

★ *Upgrade to a Pentium II Processor at 400MHz, add $300.*

★ *Ultra-2/LVD PowerEdge Expandable RAID Controller 2/SC, add $599.*

★ *Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0 (10 Client Access Licenses), add $799.*

★ *APC Smart-UPS 700W Power Supply, add $369.*

$2349

Business Lease◊: $79/Mo., 36 Mos.

E•VALUE CODE: 05549-290323

NEW DELL POWEREDGE 1300 SERVER
PENTIUM II PROCESSOR AT 350MHz
(DUAL PROCESSOR/RAID CAPABLE)

- 64MB 100MHz ECC SDRAM
- 512KB Integrated L2 ECC Cache
- 4GB Ultra-2/LVD SCSI Hard Drive
- 32X Max^ Variable EIDE CD-ROM
- HP OpenView NNM Special Edition
- Intel Pro/100+ PCI Ethernet Adapter
- Integrated PCI Ultra-2/LVD SCSI Controller
- 6 Expansion Slots: 5 PCI, 1 PCI/ISA
- 4 Hard Drive Bays: 2-1.6" and 2-1"
- 3-5.25" Media Bays
- 3-Year Next-Business-Day On-site^ Service
- 7x24 Dedicated Server Hardware Technical Telephone Support

★ *Second Pentium II Processor at 350MHz, add $399.*

★ *Upgrade to 128MB 100MHz ECC SDRAM, add $189.*

★ *Upgrade to a 9GB Ultra-2/LVD SCSI Hard Drive, add $200.*

★ *Second 9GB Ultra-2 LVD SCSI Hard Drive, add $599.*

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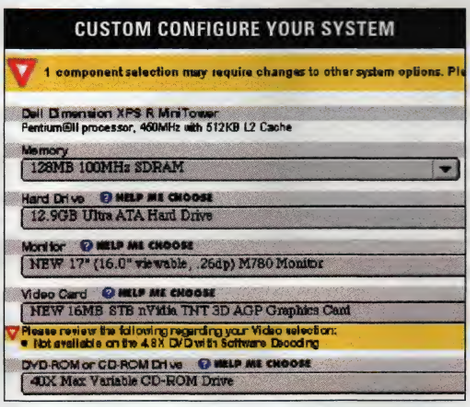
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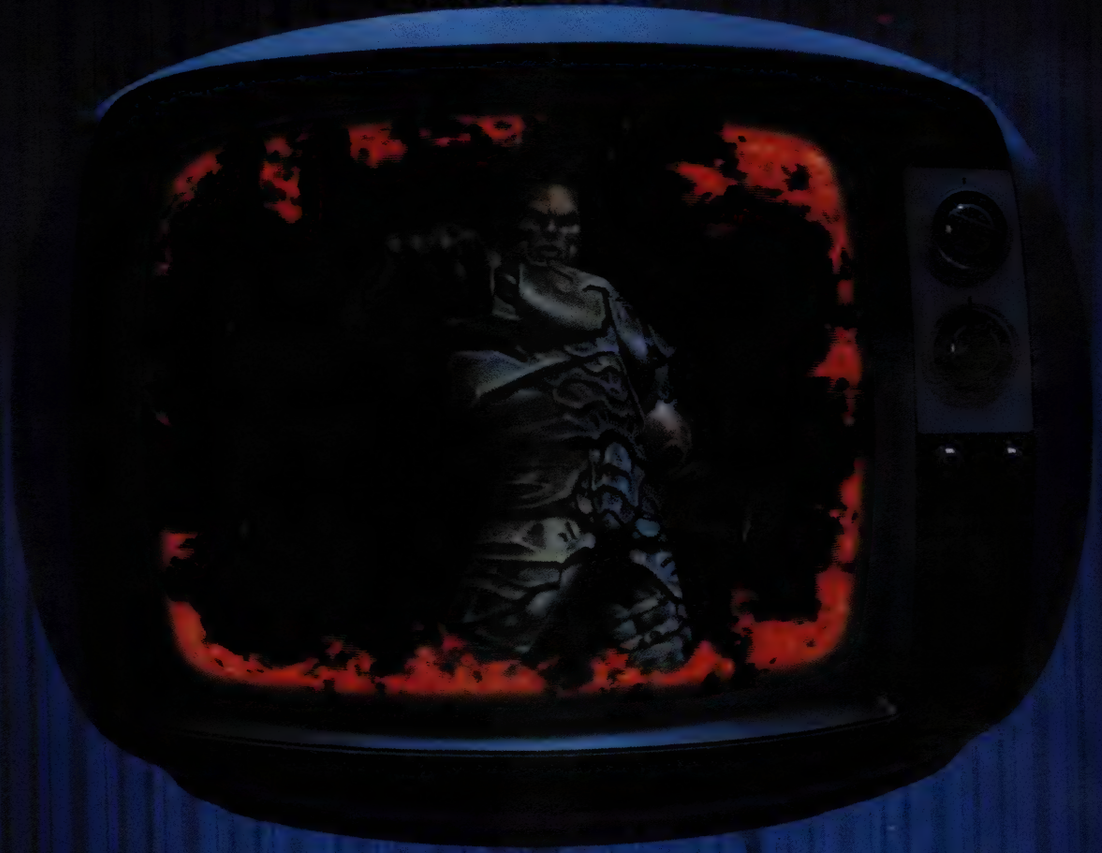
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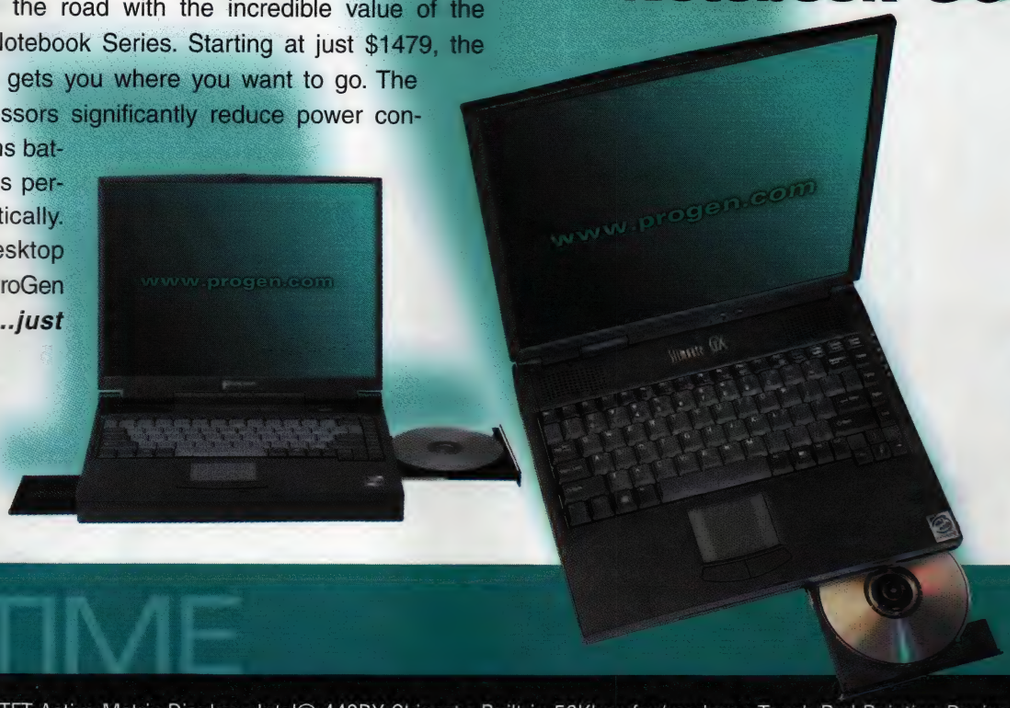
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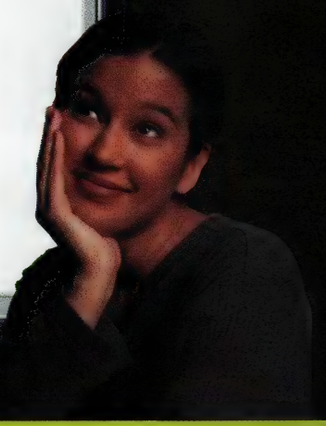
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Creative Lab PC-128 Sond Card
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Windows NT 4.0 Workstation

Option: 56K V.90 F/M



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12.1" SVGA 800x600 TFT
C&T 65550 2MB Graphics
4.1GB HDD (upto 18.0GB)
32X EIDE CD-ROM
2 Serial, Parallel, PS-2 Port
Windows 98

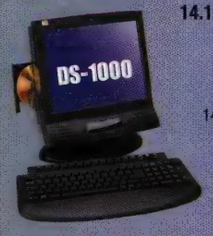
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Optional: • 10/100 LAN • 56K V.90 F/M
• Sound System

Slim Size with All-in-one Design

14.1" XGA TFT BIG LCD Screen



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1MB 65550 PCI Graphic card
4.3GB HDD (upto 6.0GB)
24X EIDE CD-ROM
2 Serial, Parallel, PS-2 Port
Windows 98

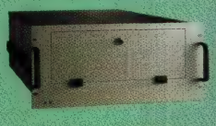
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Optional: • 10/100 LAN • 56K V.90 F/M
• Sound System

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5U High with 6 Open Drive Bays
ATX MB or 14 PCI-ISA Slots backplane



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4.1GB HDD (upto 18GB)
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Windows 98

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• 14" to 19" CRT Monitor
• Sound System

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32MB EDO RAM (upto 64MB)
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2.1GB HDD (upto 6.0GB)
4 Serial, Parallel, PS-2 Port
Windows 98

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Optional:
• External FDD • 24V DC Power Supply

RMS-6148B 19" RACKMOUNT PC

4U High with 7 Open Drive Bays
20 PCI-ISA slot backplane



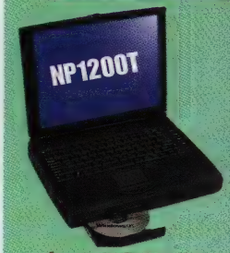
Intel Pentium II 450Mhz (SBC Board)
512K Internal L2 Cache
64MB PC-100 RAM (up to 768MB)
4MB PCI Graphic card
4.0GB HDD (up to 18GB)
32X EIDE CD-ROM
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2 x 300W Redundant Power Supply
Windows 98

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Optional: • Industrial Keyboard & Drawer
• 14" to 19" CRT Monitor
• Sound System

AMD CPU with DVD and 14.1" XGA



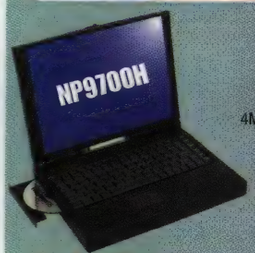
AMD K6-2/400Mhz
512K Internal L2 cache
64MB SDRAM (upto 128MB)
14.1" XGA 1024x768 TFT
4MB SDRAM PCI 64bit Graphics
6.0GB HDD
24X CD-ROM
3D Audio Wavetable Sound
1 x Serial, Parallel,
USB, PS-2 Port
Windows 98

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Optional: • 12.1" SVGA TFT
• 13.3" XGA TFT • 2X DVD

AMD 366Mhz K6-2



AMD K6-2/366Mhz
512K Internal L2 cache
64MB SDRAM (upto 256MB)
13.3" XGA 1024x768 TFT
4MB SDRAM PCI 64bit Graphics
6.0GB HDD
24X CD-ROM
3D Audio Wavetable Sound
1 x Serial, Parallel,
USB, PS-2 Port
Windows 98

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Optional:
• 12.1" Dual Scan • 12.1" SVGA TFT

8MB AGP Video & Upto 384MB Memory



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512K Internal L2 cache
64MB SDRAM (upto 384MB)
15.1" XGA 1024x768 TFT
8MB SDRAM 2X AGP Graphics
6.0GB HDD
24X CD-ROM
3D Audio Wavetable Sound
1 x Serial, Parallel,
USB, PS-2 Port
Windows 98

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SMART SHOPPER

TRENDS

Compaq Going Shopping.com

Analysts say customer service should be a top priority.

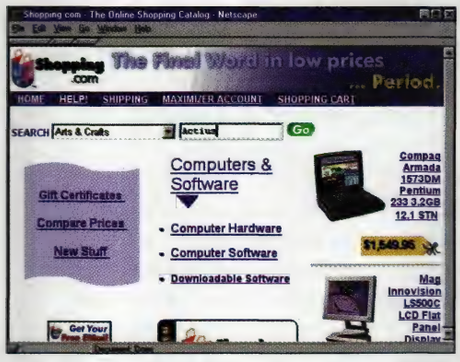
Compaq Computer Corp. has reached an agreement to acquire the outstanding stock of Shopping.com, an online retailer that sells consumer products, for approximately $220 million. Compaq says that the deal was designed to leverage the traffic generated at its AltaVista portal site to help Shopping.com grow faster and more efficiently than if it were a stand-alone site. But analysts suggest that Compaq's first priority should be to prepare the firm's customer-service department for the increased traffic.

ACTIVE LINKS

www.aolselect.com ..... AOL Select
www.shopping.com/ibuy ..... Shopping.com
www.directplus.compaq.com ..... Compaq Online Store

"Compaq's acquisition of Shopping.com is pretty good, because Compaq is getting someone who really knows what they are doing and has been doing it from the ground up," says Jeff Narucki, a senior analyst with Progressive Strategies, a research firm based in New York.

However, Narucki warns that an increase in traffic without adequate customer-support services could hurt Shopping.com, noting that many online retailers were overwhelmed this past holiday season by a surge of customers.



According to the findings in a recent customer-satisfaction survey of 2,300 online consumers conducted jointly by Jupiter Communications, a New York-based new-media-research firm, and NFO Interactive, a Greenwich, Conn.-based research company, many consumers believed the quality of online shopping had taken a hit.

The survey indicated that only 74 percent of holiday shoppers felt satisfied with their shopping experience, a drop of 14 percent compared with the results of an identical Jupiter/NFO survey conducted in July 1998. Fifteen percent of respondents cited merchandise availability, and 13 percent cited slow site performance as major reasons they were unhappy with their online-shopping experience.

In a release about the report, Jupiter analyst Nicole Vanderbilt noted that an unexpected increase in traffic to these sites was responsible for technological glitches that caused some consumer headaches with inventory fulfillment and slow site responses.

Progressive Strategies' Narucki agrees, noting that online retailers need to be mindful of any possible customer-service issues if they want to retain customers.

"I don't think anyone was prepared," Narucki says of the huge increase in online shopping this past holiday season.

—Keith Kirkpatrick

AOL SELECTS A MULTILEVEL MARKETING PARTNER

ONLINE GIANT WILL HELP INDIVIDUALS SELL COMPUTERS AND SERVICES

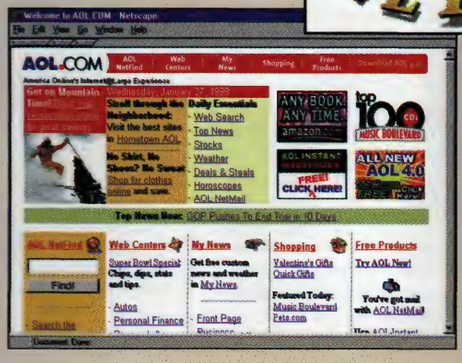
Multilevel advertisements are familiar from newspaper and back-of-magazine classifieds, Web sites, and spam mail: "free business opportunities with great discounts," "free Web site provided," "no gimmicks," "make $462 a day with your computer with little effort," "create your own team." It may be the disreputable cousin in the capitalist family tree, but multilevel marketing received a prominent show of support with the creation of AOL Select by America Online.

AOL Select is the product of a strategic alliance between AOL and Monument Communications, a multilevel marketer. The two Virginia-based companies are cooperating to market AOL product and service partners to consumers.

Multilevel, or network, marketing is a way of selling goods or services through distributors, best exemplified by Amway and Mary Kay Cosmetics. A $16 billion industry, multilevel marketing gets its name from the way distributors can receive commissions not only from the goods they sell, but also from the goods sold by those recruits they've brought in.

AOL, which blankets the country with millions of introductory discs, is no stranger to using alternative methods of promotion. AOL Select marks an entrance by the company into a new arena of marketing that will showcase its business partners. The AOL Select Web site noted that among the products and services to be offered would be computers from IBM, satellite programming from DirecTV, and wireless e-mail and other technology products.





With 15 million current subscribers to AOL, and a projected 600,000 new subscribers a month, AOL Select will have a large initial (and rapidly expanding) base at which to target its products. Aggressive advertising is promised in industry magazines, on portals such as the 58 Digital Cities areas on Netscape's NetCenter, and on banner ads throughout AOL areas and welcome-screen promotions.

The program follows typical multilevel orientation by offering prospective distributors different levels at which they can buy into the program. Those who qualify can start at the level of customer representative, training manager, or senior training manager for $20, $99, and $495 respectively.

—Jon Halpin

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Back in the Saddle But on a Budget

Picking the Best Entry-Level System for a Retired Sales Rep

CHALLENGE

USER PROFILE

Bob Eaton, a retiree and first-time buyer

COMPUTING NEEDS

A basic PC and an inkjet printer priced from $1,000 to $1,500

Bob Eaton was an early computer adopter but somehow got sidelined along the way. Back in the late 1970s, he relied on a RadioShack TRS-80 microcomputer to track sales of spark plugs and batteries for General Motors' Delco division.

"We used to carry it around with us when we traveled and even checked e-mail using acoustic couplers," he says. But that $600 microcomputer, which was "powered" by a Z80 processor and 4K of RAM, was his first and only direct contact with the world of computing.

Now retired, Eaton is ready to hit the much ballyhooed infobahn and is looking for a low-cost desktop system and an inkjet printer for $1,500, preferably less. The astonishing changes in technology since his TRS-80 days, however, have left him baffled as to what to look for in an entry-level system. In fact, he's not even sure what he plans to use the computer for other than light word processing, e-mail, and noodling around the Web. When questioned, he predicts that his multimedia needs will be few. He doesn't need tremendous processing power for digital imaging, he hasn't even considered a subwoofer-enhanced sound system, and he's not planning on pulling the trigger on the otherworldly fiends that populate 3-D shooters. But he does want an easy-on-the-eyes 17-inch monitor—a wise decision, although one that nudges the price a couple of C notes above the magic $1,000 price point.



So excluding the monitor, Eaton's needs are basic. In fact, he represents a growing market for computer manufacturers and sellers. IBM says seniors and retirees are a burgeoning segment in entry-level computing because they're beginning to understand the benefits of keeping in touch with far-flung family members and friends via e-mail, and even of shopping on the Web.

During my initial conversation with Eaton, who lives in Cumberland, Maine, I told him that a Celeron-based system running at 333MHz would probably meet his needs. I explained that the newer Celerons, rigged with 128K of integrated cache, have been garnering great performance results, unlike their much-maligned cacheless predecessors. So I advised coupling that processor with these minimums: 64MB of RAM, a 6.4GB hard drive, a graphics card with 8MB of memory, a 17-inch monitor, and a 56Kbps modem. He was unfamiliar with DVD technology, so we agreed that a DVD-ROM drive is an expense he could dodge. As for productivity apps, Bob says he needs just basic word processing. And because he's new to PCs, we agreed that a three-year warranty and 24-hour daily tech support are an essential safety blanket.

SOLUTIONS

THE ADVISOR'S CHOICE

The **Unicent Avanta L333** and the **Hewlett-Packard DeskJet 712C:** Unicent has been getting a lot of rave reviews for its entry-level PCs, which it offers at unbeatable prices. The Avanta L333 is no exception: Unicent includes all the necessary components—a 333MHz Celeron CPU, 64MB of RAM, a 6.4GB hard drive, an ATI 3D Charger AGP graphics card with 8MB of graphics RAM, a 17-inch monitor, and Altec Lansing speakers—for a low price of $1,134. The HP DeskJet 712C, available for $198 from Tri State Computer, consistently wins accolades as an above-average performer.
Unicent Technologies: 800-308-1319; www.unicent.com
Tri State Computer: 800-433-5199

RUNNERS-UP

The **Quantex QP6/333 M-1c**, a 333MHz Celeron machine, has a great set of features in its favor, including an Ensoniq AudioPCI sound card, a set of two-piece Altec Lansing speakers, and a nice home-oriented software bundle. But its cost of $1,198 is a little higher than the competition's without delivering extras that justify the price.

ProGen Technology's Atlas X333 packs a 333MHz Pentium II processor into a value package priced at only $1,137. The vendor includes all the requisites, plus a Microsoft Natural keyboard, an IntelliMouse, and a microphone, as well as Microsoft Works, Bookshelf, and Money. This was a tough call, but in the end, I decided to go with the newer Celeron technology because performance tests have showed that its scores are often equal to or better than its Pentium II siblings'.

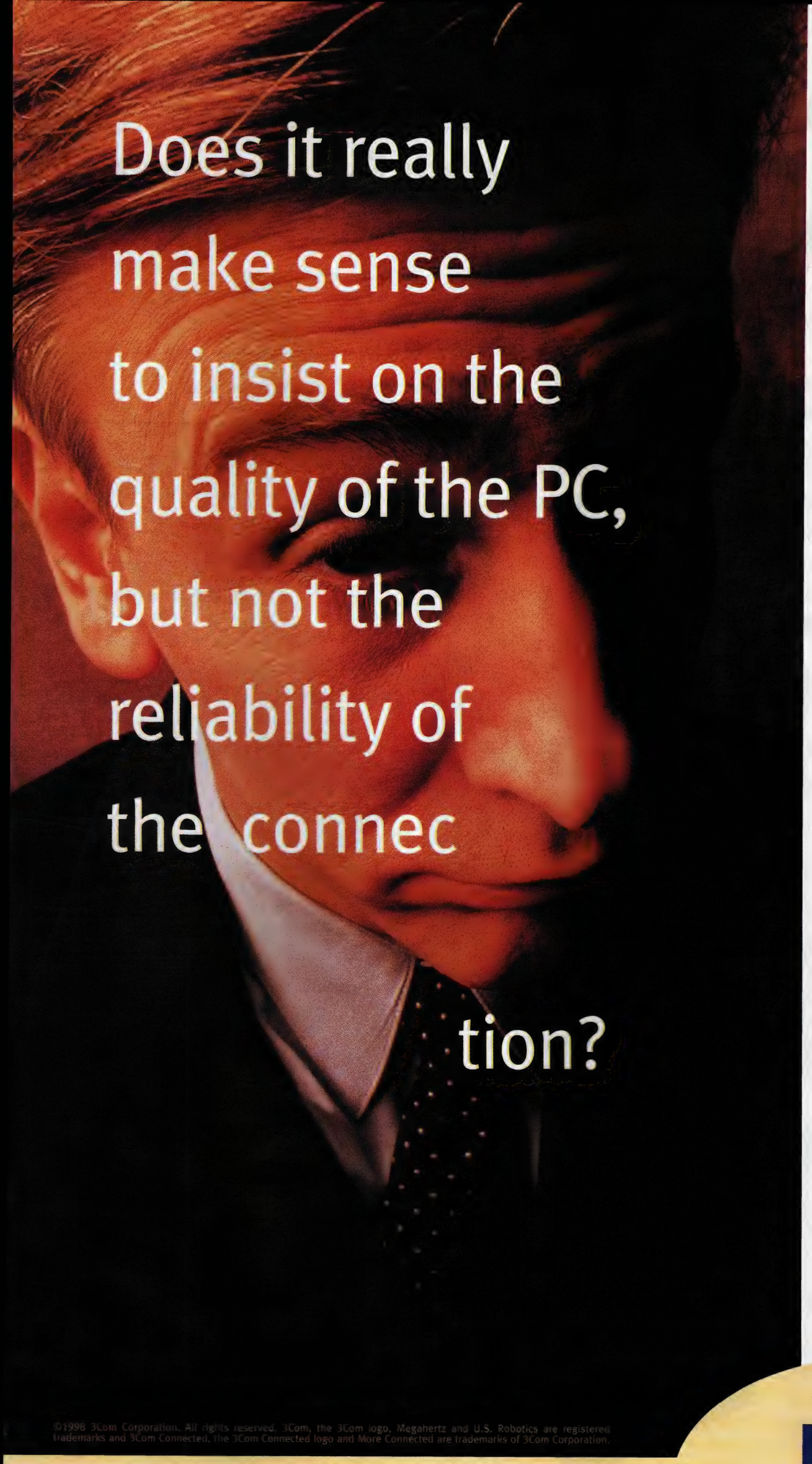
I set out to find a system based on these guidelines for roughly a grand, which would leave a couple of hundred bucks for a nice inkjet printer and still come in under budget. Typically, I'd recommend that first-time buyers go with a company that has a solid-gold reputation for service and support, such as Dell Computer Corp., Gateway, or Micron Electronics. I knew that these vendors are not big players in the $1,000-level market, but I still wanted to make sure they hadn't recently dipped below the four-figure bar. I scoured ads and their Web sites in search of entry-level systems, and as expected, it was impossible to find anything at $1,000 from these top-tier firms. Their prices ranged from $1,250 to more than $1,400 for the configuration I was after.

So I took a look at several vendors that offer lower-price systems but have a solid track record of performance and reliability. First, I headed for Quantex's Web site. Unfortunately, the lowest configuration available for a value multimedia home system was outfitted with a 400MHz Celeron processor. Configured with the right RAM, hard drive, and 17-inch monitor, the QP6/400 M-1c came in above budget at $1,248. That's a great deal on a 400MHz Celeron, and its components looked pretty solid, but it was a smidgen high. Then I discovered that Quantex does offer a 333MHz version of this machine, although the company had concealed this version under an option labeled "side-by-side comparison."

Dropping down the processor to 333MHz yielded a price of $1,198, which was only $50 less than the top-of-the-line Celeron model. This was close, but no deal.

Onward to ProGen, where I've found some outstanding values in the past. Initially, I was frustrated to see that its Discover 3D 333MHz Celeron system's 32MB of RAM

(continued on page 112)



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- Integrated RAIDport III
- 6 Expansion Slots
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- Trident 3D Image 9750 AGP Graphics Adapter w/4MB
- 32X SCSI CD-ROM Drive
- Intel® EtherExpress™ Pro 10/100
- 1.44MB Floppy Disk Drive
- 300W Full Tower w/6 5 1/4" Ext. Bays, 3 3 1/2" Bays
- 104 Key Enhanced Windows Keyboard
- Logitech PS/2 Mouse
- Microsoft NT Server 4.0 with 5 User License
- Intel® LANDesk® Client Manager for Windows NT
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- Integrated RAIDport III
- 6 Expansion Slots
- 4.5GB Ultra-2/LVD SCSI Hard Disk Drive
- Trident 3D Image 9750 AGP Graphics Adapter w/4MB
- 32X SCSI CD-ROM Drive
- Intel® EtherExpress™ Pro 10/100
- 1.44MB Floppy Disk Drive
- 300W Full Tower w/6 5 1/4" Ext. Bays, 3 3 1/2" Bays
- 104 Key Enhanced Windows Keyboard
- Logitech PS/2 Mouse
- Microsoft NT Server 4.0 with 5 User License
- Intel® LANDesk® Client Manager for Windows NT
- Super Doctor Utility with PC Health Monitoring
- Fully Tested and Burned In
- 3 Year Limited Warranty
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Pentium® II processor 300MHz with 512KB Cache $2,639



CSN-1400DVD Notebook

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- 64MB SDRAM (384MB Max)
- 6.4GB Ultra ATA Hard Disk Drive
- 2X DVD-ROM & 3.5" Floppy Drive Combo
- MPEG II DVD Decoder Card
- 2X AGP 8MB ATI Rage Pro 3D Video
- Internal 56K V.90 Fax Modem
- 3D Surround Sound with Speakers and Microphone
- Intelligent Lithium Ion Battery and AC Adapter
- Deluxe Nylon Carrying Case
- Microsoft Windows 98 CD-ROM
- 1 Year On-Site Service with 24x7 Technical Support
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Pentium® II processor 266MHz with 512KB Cache $2,699
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- 15" SVGA .28dpi Monitor
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- Diamond Sonic Impact Wavetable Sound Card
- 56.6K V.90 Voice/Fax/Modem
- 1.44MB Floppy Disk Drive
- Tool-Free Mid Tower ATX Case with 235W Power Supply
- 104 Key Enhanced Windows Keyboard
- Logitech PS/2 Mouse
- 120 Watt Stereo Speakers
- Microsoft Windows 98
- Fully Tested and Burned In
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Intel® Celeron™ processor 300MHz with 128KB Cache.....$799
Intel® Celeron™ processor 333MHz with 128KB Cache.....$815
Intel® Celeron™ processor 366MHz with 128KB Cache.....$885
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Xtreme 2500C Workstation

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- 6.4GB Ultra DMA Hard Disk Drive
- 15" SVGA .28dpi Monitor
- 4MB 3D AGP Graphics Accelerator Card
- 32X IDE CD-ROM Drive
- Diamond Sonic Impact Wavetable Sound Card
- 56.6K V.90 Voice/Fax/Modem
- 1.44MB Floppy Disk Drive
- Tool-Free Mid Tower ATX Case with 235W Power Supply
- 104 Key Enhanced Windows Keyboard
- Logitech PS/2 Mouse
- 120 Watt Stereo Speakers
- Microsoft Windows 98
- Fully Tested and Burned In
- **3 Year Limited Warranty**
- **1 Year On-Site Service with 24x7 Technical Support**

Intel® Celeron™ processor 300MHz with 128KB Cache.....$875
Intel® Celeron™ processor 333MHz with 128KB Cache.....$899
Intel® Celeron™ processor 366MHz with 128KB Cache.....$955
Intel® Celeron™ processor 400MHz with 128KB Cache.....$999

Xtreme 2700C Workstation

- 440LX Chipset with USB
- 64MB SDRAM
- 8.4GB Ultra DMA Hard Disk Drive
- 17" SVGA .28dpi Monitor
- 8MB 3D AGP Graphics Accelerator Card
- 32X IDE CD-ROM Drive
- Diamond Sonic Impact Wavetable Sound
- 56.6K V.90 Voice/Fax/Modem
- 1.44MB Floppy Disk Drive
- Tool-Free Mid Tower ATX Case with 235W Power Supply
- 104 Key Enhanced Windows Keyboard
- Logitech PS/2 Mouse
- 120 Watt Stereo Speakers
- Microsoft Windows 98
- Fully Tested and Burned In
- **3 Year Limited Warranty**
- **1 Year On-Site Service with 24x7 Technical Support**

Intel® Celeron™ processor 300MHz with 128KB Cache.....$999
Intel® Celeron™ processor 333MHz with 128KB Cache.....$1,025
Intel® Celeron™ processor 366MHz with 128KB Cache.....$1,075
Intel® Celeron™ processor 400MHz with 128KB Cache.....$1,129

Xtreme 5400C Workstation

- 440BX Chipset 100MHz with USB
- 32MB 100MHz SDRAM
- 4.3GB Ultra DMA Hard Disk Drive
- 15" SVGA .28dpi Monitor (13.8" viewable)
- 4MB 3D AGP Graphics Accelerator Card
- 32X IDE CD-ROM Drive
- Diamond Sonic Impact Wavetable Sound Card
- 56.6K V.90 Voice/Fax/Modem
- 1.44MB Floppy Disk Drive
- Tool-Free Mid Tower ATX Case with 235W Power Supply
- 104 Key Enhanced Windows Keyboard
- Microsoft PS/2 Mouse
- 120 Watt Stereo Speakers
- Microsoft Windows 98
- Fully Tested and Burned In
- **3 Year Limited Warranty**
- **1 Year On-Site Service with 24x7 Technical Support**

Intel® Celeron™ processor 300MHz with 128KB Cache $869
Intel® Celeron™ processor 333MHz with 128KB Cache $895
Intel® Celeron™ processor 366MHz with 128KB Cache $950
Intel® Celeron™ processor 400MHz with 128KB Cache $999

Xtreme 5500P Workstation

- 440BX Chipset 100MHz with USB
- 64MB 100MHz SDRAM
- 6.4GB Ultra DMA Hard Disk Drive
- 15" SVGA .28dpi Monitor (13.8" viewable)
- Diamond Stealth II G460 3D Video with 8MB
- 32X IDE CD-ROM Drive
- Diamond Sonic Impact Wavetable Sound Card
- 56.6K V.90 Voice/Fax/Modem
- 1.44MB Floppy Disk Drive
- Tool-Free Mid Tower ATX Case with 235W Power Supply
- 104 Key Enhanced Windows Keyboard
- Microsoft PS/2 Mouse
- 120 Watt Stereo Speakers
- Microsoft Windows 98
- Fully Tested and Burned In
- **3 Year Limited Warranty**
- **1 Year On-Site Service with 24x7 Technical Support**

Pentium® II processor 350MHz with 512KB Cache $1,129
Pentium® II processor 400MHz with 512KB Cache $1,279
Pentium® II processor 450MHz with 512KB Cache $1,499

Xtreme 5700P Workstation

- 440BX Chipset 100MHz with USB
- 64MB 100MHz SDRAM
- 8.4GB Ultra DMA Hard Disk Drive
- 17" SVGA .28dpi Monitor (15.8" viewable)
- Diamond Stealth II G460 3D Video with 8MB
- 3rd Generation DVD-ROM Drive with MPEG II Decoder Card
- Diamond Sonic Impact Wavetable Sound Card
- 56.6K V.90 Voice/Fax/Modem
- 1.44MB Floppy Disk Drive
- Tool-Free Mid Tower ATX Case with 235W Power Supply
- 104 Key Enhanced Windows Keyboard
- Microsoft PS/2 Mouse
- 120 Watt Stereo Speakers
- Microsoft Windows 98
- Fully Tested and Burned In
- **3 Year Limited Warranty**
- **1 Year On-Site Service with 24x7 Technical Support**

Pentium® II processor 350MHz with 512KB Cache $1,349
Pentium® II processor 400MHz with 512KB Cache $1,499
Pentium® II processor 450MHz with 512KB Cache $1,729



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(continued from page 108)

and 3.2GB hard drive couldn't be upgraded. These limitations would cripple the utility and life span of the system for most users. I continued looking, however, and found a great price on a 333MHz Pentium II system with all the components on the shopping list plus a Microsoft Natural keyboard and a microphone. This version of the Atlas X333 came in at a bargain $1,137—a deal that would be mighty tough to beat.

To that end, I doggedly slogged through a slew of ads and Web sites of vendors known to deliver value and dependability. Finally, I hit on a PC for less.

Unicent Technologies is a direct seller whose systems have been getting a lot of excellent reviews lately, and I remembered that it was something of a value leader in price. So I checked out Unicent's site, and bingo, I found a great package for Eaton: the Avanta L333, a 333MHz Celeron system priced right at $1,134. Admittedly, that's just three bucks less than ProGen's Pentium II. But it's uncertain whether the Pentium II would perform better than a Celeron; recent benchmarking tests have shown that Celeron systems have brought home scores as good as and sometimes better than those of Pentium II processors of the same clock speed.

Recent benchmarking tests have shown Celeron systems to bring home scores as good as and sometimes better than those of Pentium II processors of the same clock speed.

This speed bump is due to the Celeron's 128K of integrated cache, which runs at the full speed of the processor and boosts its performance significantly. Pentium IIs, by comparison, have 512K of Level 2 cache, which runs at half the speed of the processor core. So I settled on the Unicent, although I readily acknowledge that the ProGen system is an equally tempting buy.

I moved on to the printer, which proved to be no great challenge. The catalogs and Web sites of direct vendors are wallpapered with inexpensive inkjets these days. To ensure quality and dependability, I wanted to go a step above the low end. So I checked out a series of reviews in past issues of *Computer Shopper* and online to find an inkjet that delivered sharp performance at a good value. One unit that won consistent accolades was the Hewlett-Packard DeskJet 712C, which outputs crisp black text and vibrant colors at speeds of up to 6 pages per minute.

It's widely available for $199, and that price doesn't vary. I checked new sites that promise to sell equipment at cost, but it was not among the handful of inkjets available. The best I could do was $198 at Tri State Computer.

Tally the costs for the system and the printer, and the total is $1,332, more than a grand, but considerably less than $1,500. And the Unicent Avanta L333 is a computer whose capabilities are light-years beyond those of the TRS-80 Eaton carted around in the 1970s, which was known to be a little flaky and earned the nickname "Trash 80." That's an aspersion unlikely to be cast on the Avanta L333. ***—Rik Fairlie***

Money Back, Guaranteed

Rebates and Other Savings

SERVE YOUR PRINTER WELL

Axis offers some comfort during its Winter Warm-Up promotion. Buy an Axis 5400 or 5600 print server, and receive a mail-in rebate of $20 or $40 if you bought your server with a printer. The Axis 150 print server merits a $50 rebate. The offer is good through April 30.

MULTIMEDIA MELTDOWN

Diamond Multimedia offers a deal for those who want to soup up the 2-D graphics of their presentations or the 3-D graphics of their games. Buy the Stealth II S220 graphics accelerator by June 30 and receive a $30 mail-in rebate. Rebate requests must be postmarked by July 31.

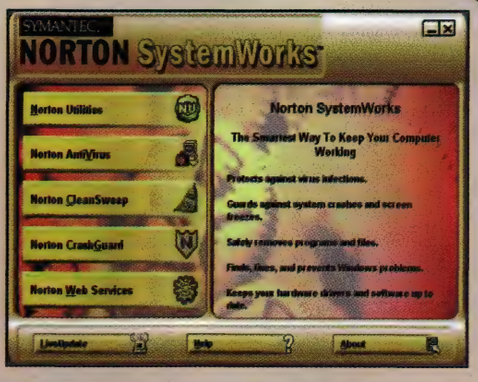
REX REBATE

Consumers who buy any of Franklin's Rex products from a retailer before April 15 will receive a mail-in rebate of $30. This applies to the Rex-3 and the Rex Pro with or without a docking station. Rebate requests must be postmarked by May 15.



KARMIC COPYING

Those in need of a combination scanner, printer, and copier and concerned about their position on the wheel of birth and rebirth can earn some cosmic points on this promotion from Hewlett-Packard. HP's Good Karma, Good Capitalism, All-in-One deal offers up to $150 back with the purchase of an HP OfficeJet Pro 1175C or 1170C, or an OfficeJet 700 or 710. Good karma comes from the requirement that the buyer donate a scanner, a printer, a fax machine, or a copier to Goodwill or another charity. The offer is good through April 15, donation needs to be made by May 15, and documentation has to be mailed in to HP by May 31.



DITTO DOLLARS

Back up your files and save. Iomega is offering a mail-in rebate for its Ditto 2GB internal and external drives. Purchase by April 30, and you'll receive a $40 rebate on an internal drive, $70 on an external drive. The Ditto drives will read all tapes created on Iomega drives. Mail in rebate requests by May 31. This deal is not valid on remanufactured drives.

MONEY MANAGEMENT

Save a little money and manage your business's books when buying Intuit's QuickBooks Pro 6.0. New features include enhanced password protection, improved register-sorting and tax-tracking support, and easier payroll setup. Intuit has different mail-in rebate returns based on whether the buyer is upgrading a previous version of QuickBooks Pro, is a Quicken owner, or is buying multiple copies of QuickBooks Pro 6.0 for the first time. Upgraders receive $70 for each copy they buy, up to five. Quicken users get a $30 rebate on their first copy, with $70 for each after that, up to five. First-time owners get a $70 rebate for each copy they buy after the first one, up to five. Rebate requests must be postmarked by May 31.

PC WHEREVER

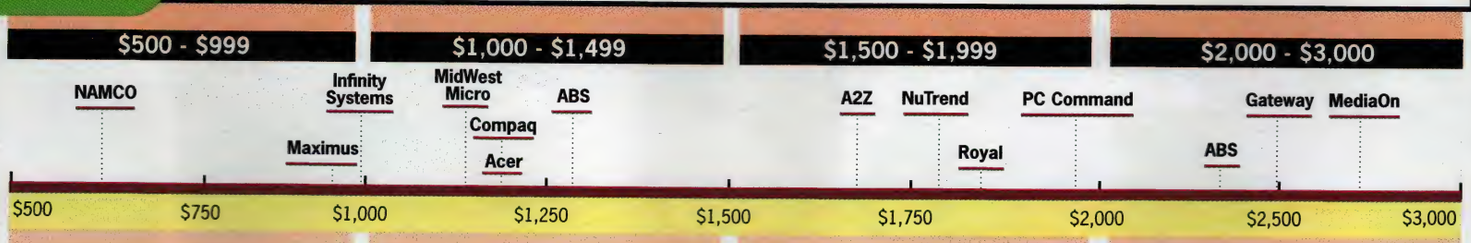
Buyers of Norton SystemWorks who also buy a copy of pcAnywhere 8.0 can receive a mail-in rebate of $50 U.S. (or $80 Canadian) from Symantec. You need to connect your system quickly, however. This offer is good only during the 30 days immediately after a purchase of SystemWorks. ***—Jon Halpin***

SMART SHOPPER YOUR GUIDE TO THE BEST PC DEALS

VALUE LINE

Each month, Russell Gilchrist, a senior market analyst at *Computer Shopper*, scours the PC universe to discover what configurations vendors are selling and how much they are charging. On this page, the editors of *Computer Shopper* have highlighted some of the best values from his list. Keep in mind that these figures are based on advertised prices at press time and may have changed, and that they do not include data on performance or on service and support.

DESKTOPS



NAMCO 333MHz K6-2, 32MB RAM, 3.1GB hard drive, 40x CD-ROM drive, 8MB AGP card, 15-inch monitor, 56Kbps modem
Price $620

Maximus 333A MHz Celeron, 128MB RAM, 6.4GB hard drive, 40x CD-ROM drive, 4MB AGP card, 17-inch monitor, 56Kbps modem
Price $975

Infinity Systems 350MHz K6-2, 64MB RAM, 11.9GB hard drive, 36x CD-ROM drive, 8MB AGP card, 17-inch monitor, 56Kbps modem
Price $999

MidWest Micro 380MHz K6-2, 64MB RAM, 6.5GB hard drive, 36x CD-ROM drive, 8MB AGP card, 17-inch monitor, 56Kbps modem
Price $1,149

Compaq 350MHz K6-2, 128MB RAM, 8GB hard drive, 32x CD-ROM drive, 4MB AGP card, 15-inch monitor, 56Kbps modem
Price $1,199

Acer 350MHz Pentium II, 64MB RAM, 6.4GB hard drive, third-generation DVD, 8MB AGP card, 15-inch monitor, 56Kbps modem
Price $1,199

ABS 380MHz K6-2, 128MB RAM, 12GB hard drive, 40x CD-ROM drive, 8MB AGP card, 17-inch monitor, 56Kbps modem
Price $1,279

A2Z Systems 450MHz Pentium II, 128MB RAM, 8.4GB hard drive, 36x CD-ROM drive, 8MB AGP card, 17-inch monitor, 56Kbps modem
Price $1,698

NuTrend 450MHz Pentium II, 128MB RAM, 11.9GB hard drive, 40x CD-ROM drive, 16MB AGP card, 19-inch monitor, 56Kbps modem
Price $1,804

Royal 400MHz Pentium II, 128MB RAM, 19.2GB hard drive, third-generation DVD, 8MB AGP card, 17-inch monitor, 56Kbps modem
Price $1,848

PC Command 450MHz Pentium II, 128MB RAM, 12GB hard drive, third-generation DVD, 8MB AGP card, 19-inch monitor, 56Kbps modem
Price $1,945

ABS 400MHz Pentium II, 256MB RAM, 19.2GB hard drive, 44x CD-ROM drive, 32MB AGP card, 19-inch monitor, 56Kbps modem
Price $2,299

Gateway 450MHz Pentium II, 128MB RAM, 10GB hard drive, second-generation DVD, 16MB AGP card, 19-inch monitor, 56Kbps modem
Price $2,499

MediaOn 400MHz Pentium II, 128MB RAM, 16.8GB hard drive, third-generation DVD, 16MB AGP card, 21-inch monitor, 56Kbps modem
Price $2,699

Source: Value-Added Report, January 1999

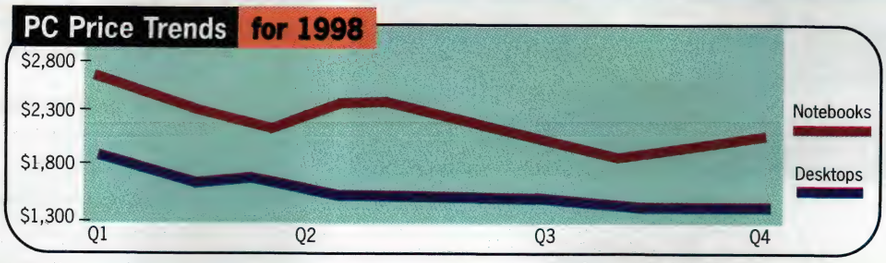
TARGET DESKTOP PC

The Average Desktop System Configuration*

- 400MHz Intel Pentium II
- 96MB RAM
- 8GB hard drive
- 32x CD-ROM drive
- 8MB AGP graphics card
- 17-inch monitor
- 56Kbps modem

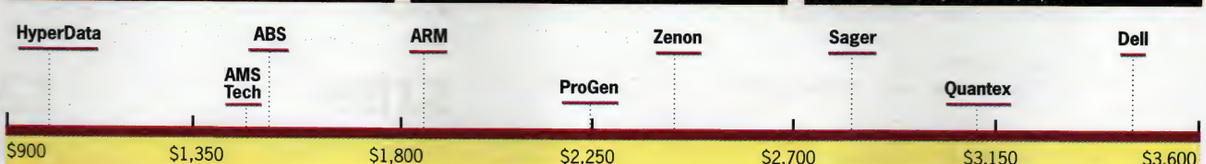
*based on ads in *Computer Shopper*, January 1999

PC Price Trends for 1998



Source: Value-Added Report, January 1999

NOTEBOOKS



HyperData 300MHz K6-2, 32MB RAM, 3.2GB hard drive, 24x CD-ROM drive, 4MB VRAM, 12.1-inch TFT, SVGA, nickel-metal-hydride battery, 7 lbs.
Price $999

AMS Tech 333MHz K6-2, 32MB RAM, 3.1GB hard drive, 24x CD-ROM drive, 1MB VRAM, 12.1-inch TFT, 56Kbps modem, SVGA, nickel-metal-hydride battery, 7 lbs.
Price $1,495

ABS 300MHz K6-2, 32MB RAM, 3GB hard drive, 24x CD-ROM drive, 2MB VRAM, 13.3-inch TFT, XGA, lithium-ion battery, 7 lbs.
Price $1,499

ARM 300MHz K6-2, 64MB RAM, 4.1GB hard drive, 24x CD-ROM drive, 4MB VRAM, 14.2-inch TFT, 56Kbps modem, XGA, lithium-ion battery, 7.5 lbs.
Price $1,899

ProGen 300MHz Pentium II, 64MB RAM, 6GB hard drive, 4MB VRAM, DVD, 13.3-inch TFT, 56Kbps modem, XGA, lithium-ion battery, 7 lbs.
Price $2,249

Zenon 300MHz K6-2, 128MB RAM, 6GB hard drive, 4MB VRAM, DVD, 14.2-inch TFT, 56Kbps modem, XGA, lithium-ion battery, 7 lbs.
Price $2,399

Sager 300MHz Pentium II, 128MB RAM, 6GB hard drive, 4MB VRAM, DVD, 14.1-inch TFT, XGA, lithium-ion battery, 7 lbs.
Price $2,845

Quantex 266MHz Pentium II, 128MB RAM, 8GB hard drive, 8MB VRAM, DVD, 14.1-inch TFT, 56Kbps modem, XGA, AGP, lithium-ion battery, 7 lbs.
Price $3,099

Dell 300MHz Pentium II, 64MB RAM, 6.4GB hard drive, 8MB VRAM, DVD, 15.1-inch TFT, 56Kbps modem, XGA, AGP, lithium-ion battery, 7 lbs.
Price $3,399

Source: Value-Added Report, January 1999

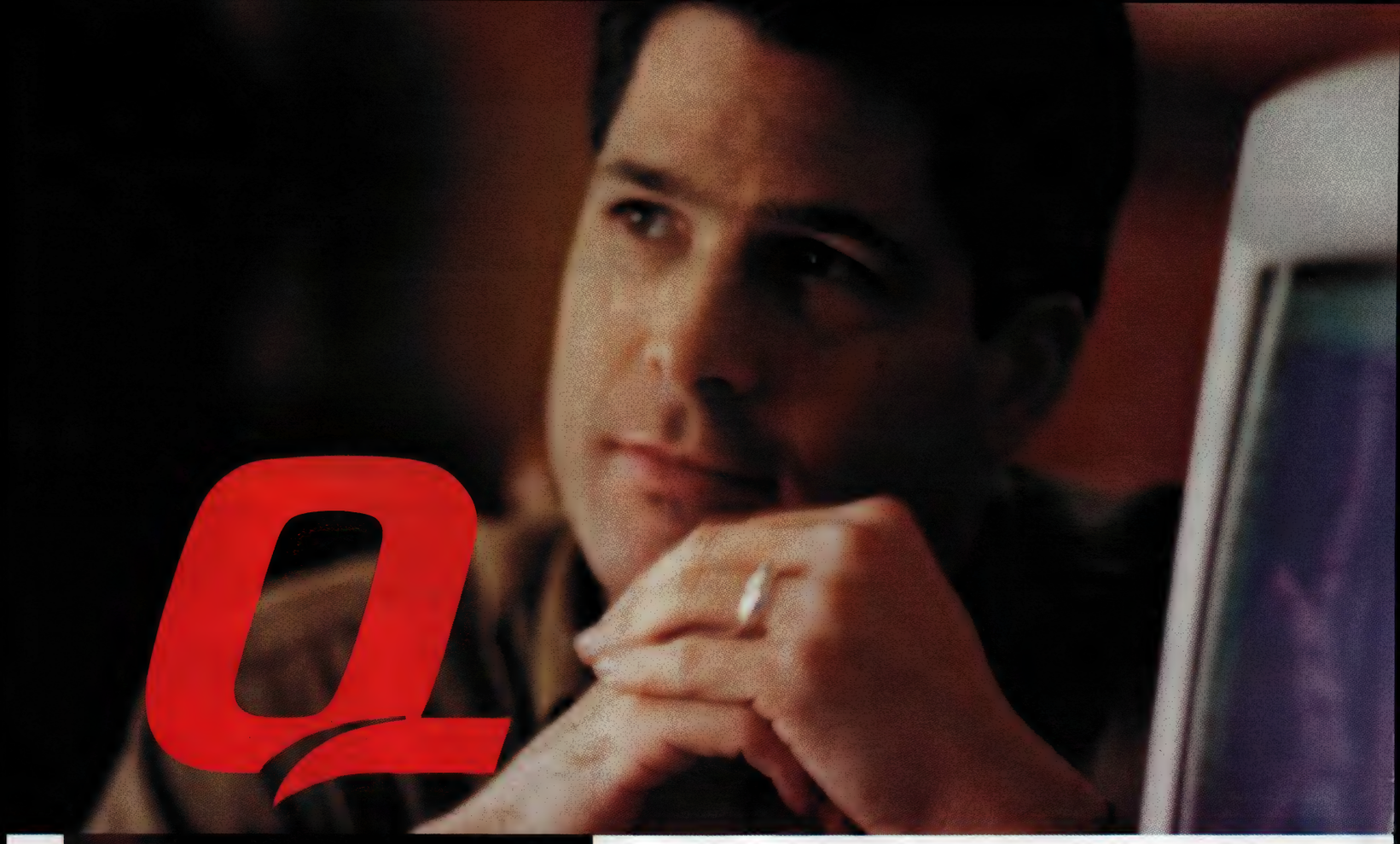
TARGET NOTEBOOK

The Average Notebook System Configuration*

- 266MHz Intel Pentium II
- 64MB RAM
- 4GB hard drive
- 24x CD-ROM drive
- 13.3-inch active-matrix screen

*based on ads in *Computer Shopper*, January 1999

SECTION CONTINUES ON PAGE 118



You want to e-mail.
He needs to download.
She'd like to surf.
Who will be left standing?

Compaq Awards

September 1998 **PC WORLD/FAMILY CIRCLE**
One of the 10 best PCs for home- or school-power systems • **PRESARIO 5630**

July/August 1998 **FAMILY PC**
Family PC Recommended Award • **PRESARIO 5600**

August/September 1998 **WINDOWS MAGAZINE**
WIN LIST • **PRESARIO 5600 SERIES**

June 1998 **BOOT MAGAZINE**
Kick-Ass Product • **PRESARIO 5600 SERIES**

	PRESARIO 5600i-500/3 INTERNET PC	**PRESARIO 5600i-500/3 INTERNET PC**
	Intel® Pentium® III Processor, 500 MHz	Intel Pentium III Processor, 500 MHz
	128 MB SyncDRAM expandable to 384 MB	128 MB SyncDRAM expandable to 384 MB
	16.8 GB UltraDMA Hard Drive[1]	13.0 GB UltraDMA Hard Drive[1]
	6X DVD-ROM Drive[5]	6X DVD-ROM Drive[5]
	Diamond Viper 550 AGP w/16 MB SDRAM	Diamond Viper 550 AGP w/16 MB SDRAM
	Diamond Monster Sound MX300 PCI Audio Card	Aureal 8820 PCI Audio Card
	6.0Mb Max Digital Modem[6]	6.0Mb Max Digital Modem[6]
	JBL Pro Premium Speakers w/Subwoofer	JBL Pro Premium Speakers w/Subwoofer
	Digital Creativity Imaging Center[3]	10 Mbps Ethernet Port, Cable Modem Ready[8]
	10 Mbps Ethernet Port, Cable Modem Ready[8]	MS Featured Home Collection & MS Word
	Home Phoneline Networking[7] (Integrated)	Microsoft Windows98
	Microsoft® Featured Home Collection & MS® Word	Compaq V910 19" Monitor (18.0" VIA)
	Microsoft Windows®98	
	Compaq FP700 15" Flat Panel Monitor	
	$3199	**$2499**
Personalize with these options:	256 MB SyncDRAM: Add $300	19.2 GB UltraDMA Hard Drive:[1] Add $115
	Iomega® Zip Built-In™ Drive with 1 disk: Add $79	Home Phoneline Networking[7] for 2 computers:** Add $99
	22.0 GB UltraDMA High Performance Hard Drive:[1] Add $225	Tripp Lite Internet Office 700 UPS : Add $189.95

COMPAQ Better answers.℠

All prices shown are Compaq Direct selling price. Prices shown do not include applicable sales tax and shipping. Products and prices valid in the U.S. only. Actual retail price may vary. Specifications and prices are subject to change or cancellation without notice. Not all Compaq Presario models are available in all retail stores. *50 free hours of Internet Access is chosen from Compaq Internet Setup. The 50 free hours must be used over a 30-day period from initial setup. A valid credit card is required to initiate service, although no charges will be incurred until the 50-hour trial has expired. **Card for 2nd Computer requires open PCI Slot. [1]Each additional PC must have a network adapter, sold separately. [2]For hard drives, GB = billion bytes. [3]ITU V.90 modems are designed only to allow faster downloads from K56flex or V.90 compliant digital sources. Maximum achievable download transmission rates are currently unknown, may not reach 56 kilobits per second (Kbps), and will vary with line conditions. [4]Works with most third-party devices. [5]32X Max CD-ROM data transfer rates may vary from 1800 to 4800 KB/s. [6]The 6X DVD-ROM Drive transfer rate is up to 8115 KB/s compared to 1352 KB/s for 1X DVD-ROM Drives. [8]The 6.0Mb Max Digital Modem uses the ADSL/G.Lite protocol. ADSL/G.Lite updates may be downloaded from Compaq's Web site when available. The ADSL/G.Lite protocol is designed to allow faster downloads from ADSL/G.Lite compliant digital sources. Availability of ADSL/G.Lite services will vary by region and Internet Service Provider (ISP), and may differ from V.90 ISP services. Maximum achievable download transmission rates with ADSL/G.Lite are currently unknown, may not reach 6.0Mbps, and will vary with line conditions and distance.[7]Simultaneous use of a phone line for access and regular voice/fax usage may require a line splitter or filter under certain conditions. Installation of a line splitter is available at an additional cost and must be performed by your local telephone company. [9]Cable modem service availability and offering may vary by cable provider. Labor for desktop systems is pick-up service during the first 90 days of ownership. Compaq is not liable for editorial, pictorial, or typographical errors in this advertisement. Compaq, the Compaq logo, and Presario are registered in U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Microsoft, MS, and Windows are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation. Intel, the Intel Inside logo, and Pentium are registered trademarks of Intel Corporation. Product and company names mentioned herein may be trademarks and/or registered trademarks of other companies. **Call Compaq Monday-Friday 7:00 am-11:00 pm (CST), Saturday and Sunday 7:00 am-7:00 pm (CST).** ©1999 Compaq Computer Corporation. All rights reserved.



intel inside
pentium® III

Peace, harmony, and multiple Internet access. Signs of a happy household.

"It's my turn to go online." "No, it's my turn." "Is not!" "Is too!" Was this what the Internet promised? The people at Compaq don't think so. That's why we created these new Compaq Presario 5600 Internet PCs. They're the first computers with Home Phoneline Networking,[7] which lets you plug your family's PCs into your home's phone jacks. This allows everybody to surf the Net at the same time, on the same phone line.† So while dad e-mails his college roommate, the kids can visit their school's Web site. You can also share printers, files, and games. And there's more, like one-touch Internet access and 50 free hours on the Net.* Plus, these PCs are available with a 6.0Mb Max Digital Modem,[6] which works with your 56K dial-up access sources for incredibly fast access right away. As an added bonus, it lets you talk on the phone while you surf. And since it's ADSL and cable modem ready,[8] you can tap into those new high-speed technologies as soon as they come to your area. Of course, these PCs are loaded with tons of other great features, like Intel® Pentium® III processors, thrilling 3D graphics, DVD- or CD-ROM drives, and more — all at an incredible value. So now, your family can e-mail, download, and surf in a whole new way: peacefully.

PRESARIO 5600i-500/3 INTERNET PC	**PRESARIO 5600i-450/3 INTERNET PC**	**PRESARIO 5600i-450/3 INTERNET PC**	**PRESARIO 5600i-400 INTERNET PC**
Intel Pentium III Processor, 500 MHz	Intel Pentium III Processor, 450 MHz	Intel Pentium III Processor, 450 MHz	Intel Pentium II Processor, 400 MHz
128 MB SyncDRAM expandable to 384 MB	128 MB SyncDRAM expandable to 384 MB	96 MB SyncDRAM expandable to 384 MB	64 MB SyncDRAM expandable to 384 MB
13.0 GB UltraDMA Hard Drive[1]	13.0 GB UltraDMA Hard Drive[1]	13.0 GB UltraDMA Hard Drive[1]	10.0 GB UltraDMA Hard Drive[1]
6X DVD-ROM Drive[5]	32X Max CD-ROM Drive[4]	32X Max CD-ROM Drive[4]	6X DVD-ROM Drive[5]
Diamond Viper 550 AGP w/16 MB SDRAM	2X AGP Graphics w/8 MB SGRAM	2X AGP Graphics w/8 MB SGRAM	2X AGP Graphics w/8 MB SGRAM
Aureal 8820 PCI Audio Card	Aureal 8820 PCI Audio Card	Aureal 8820 PCI Audio Card	Aureal 8820 PCI Audio Card
56K ITU V.90 Modem[2]	56K ITU V.90 Modem[2]	56K ITU V.90 Modem[2]	56K ITU V.90 Modem[2]
JBL Pro Speakers	JBL Pro Speakers	JBL Pro Speakers	JBL Pro Speakers
10 Mbps Ethernet Port, Cable Modem Ready[8]	10 Mbps Ethernet Port, Cable Modem Ready[8]	10 Mbps Ethernet Port, Cable Modem Ready[8]	10 Mbps Ethernet Port, Cable Modem Ready[8]
MS Featured Home Collection & MS Word	Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition	MS Featured Home Collection & MS Word	MS Featured Home Collection & MS Word
Microsoft Windows98	Microsoft Windows98	Microsoft Windows98	Microsoft Windows98
Compaq V720 17" Monitor (15.9" VIA)	Digital Creativity Imaging Center[3]	Digital Creativity Imaging Center[3]	Compaq V720 17" Monitor (15.9" VIA)
	Compaq V720 17" Monitor (15.9" VIA)	Compaq V720 17" Monitor (15.9" VIA)	
$2199	**$1999**	**$1899**	**$1599**
16.8 GB UltraDMA Hard Drive:[1] Add $89	Diamond Viper 550 AGP w/16 MB SDRAM: Add $60	128 MB SyncDRAM: Add $50	128 MB SyncDRAM: Add $120
6.0Mb Max Digital Modem:[6] Add $99	6.0Mb Max Digital Modem:[6] Add $99	6X DVD-ROM Drive:[5] Add $59	Iomega Zip Built-In™ Drive with 1 disk: Add $79
Compaq V910 19" Monitor (18.0" VIA): Add $170	Iomega Zip Built-In™ Drive with 1 disk: Add $79	Diamond Monster Sound MX300 PCI Audio Card & JBL Pro Premium Speakers w/Subwoofer: Add $89	Home Phoneline Networking:[7] Add $49

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Moves fast, is incredibly thin, and has a fantastic memory. Remember when you were like that?



Compaq Awards

October 1998 **EQUIP MAGAZINE**
5 Star Rating and Best Overall Notebook Award • **PRESARIO 1650**

July/August 1998 **FAMILY PC**
Best Multimedia Notebook of the Year • **PRESARIO 1680**

April 1998 **LAPTOP BUYERS GUIDE & HANDBOOK**
BEST BUY Award • **PRESARIO 1621**

	PRESARIO 1900-366 INTERNET NOTEBOOK PC	**PRESARIO 1900-333 INTERNET NOTEBOOK PC**
	Intel® Pentium® II Processor, 366 MHz	Intel Pentium II Processor, 333 MHz
	13.3" TFT Active Matrix XGA Display	13.3" TFT Active Matrix XGA Display
	128 MB SyncDRAM expandable to 192 MB	96 MB SyncDRAM expandable to 192 MB
	10.0 GB UltraDMA Hard Drive[1]	6.4 GB UltraDMA Hard Drive[1]
	2nd-Generation DVD-ROM Drive[4]	2nd-Generation DVD-ROM Drive[4]
	256-bit AGP Accelerated 3D Graphics w/2.5 MB VRAM	256-bit AGP Accelerated 3D Graphics w/2.5 MB VRAM
	56K ITU V.90 Modem[2]	56K ITU V.90 Modem[2]
	Smart Lilon Battery	Smart Lilon Battery
	256 KB Integrated "On-chip" cache	256 KB Integrated "On-chip" cache
	Microsoft® Office 97 Small Business Edition	MS® Featured Home Collection & Windows98
	Microsoft Windows® 98	Folio Carrying Case
	$3699	**$2999**
Personalize with these options:	192 MB SyncDRAM: Add $150	10.0 GB UltraDMA Hard Drive:[1] Add $350
	Extra Smart Lilon Battery: Add $129	Extra Smart Lilon Battery: Add $129
	Port Replicator: Add $129	Tripp Lite Super Notebook Protector: Add $14.95

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intel inside
pentium II PROCESSOR

Hey, even the good old days were never this good. Because now you can have a movie theater on your lap. Your clients in the palm of your hand. And the world at your fingertips. All you need is the new Compaq Presario 1900 Internet Notebook PC. Amazingly, it's two computers in one. A fully loaded next-generation notebook. And one of the lightest, sleekest computers you've ever tucked under your arm. How did we manage to create both? A revolutionary new feature: the removable drive wedge.

Have it all without carrying it all.

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PRESARIO 1900-300 INTERNET NOTEBOOK PC	**PRESARIO 1600i-366 INTERNET NOTEBOOK PC**	**PRESARIO 1600i-333 INTERNET NOTEBOOK PC**	**PRESARIO 1600i-300 INTERNET NOTEBOOK PC**
Intel Pentium II Processor, 300 MHz	Intel Pentium II Processor, 366 MHz	Intel Pentium II Processor, 333 MHz	Intel Pentium II Processor, 300 MHz
13.3" TFT Active Matrix XGA Display	14.1" TFT Active Matrix XGA Display	14.1" TFT Active Matrix XGA Display	14.1" TFT Active Matrix XGA Display
64 MB SyncDRAM expandable to 192 MB	96 MB SyncDRAM expandable to 192 MB	64 MB SyncDRAM expandable to 192 MB	64 MB SyncDRAM expandable to 128 MB
6.4 GB UltraDMA Hard Drive[1]	6.4 GB UltraDMA Hard Drive[1]	6.4 GB UltraDMA Hard Drive[1]	4.3 GB UltraDMA Hard Drive[1]
2nd-Generation DVD-ROM Drive[4]	24X Max CD-ROM Drive[3]	2nd-Generation DVD-ROM Drive[4]	2nd-Generation DVD-ROM Drive[4]
256-bit AGP Accelerated 3D Graphics w/2.5 MB VRAM	256-bit Accelerated 3D Graphics w/2.5 MB VRAM	256-bit Accelerated 3D Graphics w/2.5 MB VRAM	256-bit Accelerated 3D Graphics w/2.5 MB VRAM
56K ITU V.90 Modem[2]	56K ITU V.90 Modem[2]	56K ITU V.90 Modem[2]	56K ITU V.90 Modem[2]
Smart Lilon Battery	Smart Lilon Battery	Smart Lilon Battery	Smart Lilon Battery
256 KB Integrated "On-chip" cache	256 KB Integrated "On-chip" cache	256 KB Integrated "On-chip" cache	256 KB Integrated "On-chip" cache
Microsoft Featured Home Collection	Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition	Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition	MS Featured Home Collection & Windows98
Microsoft Windows98	Microsoft Windows98	Microsoft Windows98	Folio Carrying Case
$2749	**$2999**	**$2849**	**$2499**
Port Replicator: Add $129	192 MB SyncDRAM: Add $250	128 MB SyncDRAM: Add $200	6.4 GB UltraDMA Hard Drive:[1] Add $100
Extra Smart Lilon Battery: Add $129	2nd-Generation DVD-ROM Drive:[4] Add $149	Tripp Lite 140 Watt Inverter: Add $49.95	Extra Smart Lilon Battery: Add $129
Extra AC Adapter: Add $49	Port Replicator: Add $129	Port Replicator: Add $129	Xircom 10/100 Ethernet PC Card: Add $169

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Out-of-Box Experience

BY GREGG KEIZER

A Real-Life Guide to Buying a Notebook

Make-believe gets you only so far. Pretending to buy a system—even when the sales-rep interrogation gets intense and the demands for price quotes get to the fist-banging-on-the-table stage—isn't quite the same as really making a purchase. For a true out-of-box report, we decided, it's necessary to actually buy the computer—with real hard-earned money.

To give you this lived-to-tell-the-tale perspective, *Computer Shopper* asked me to order, receive, set up, pay for, and use a computer.

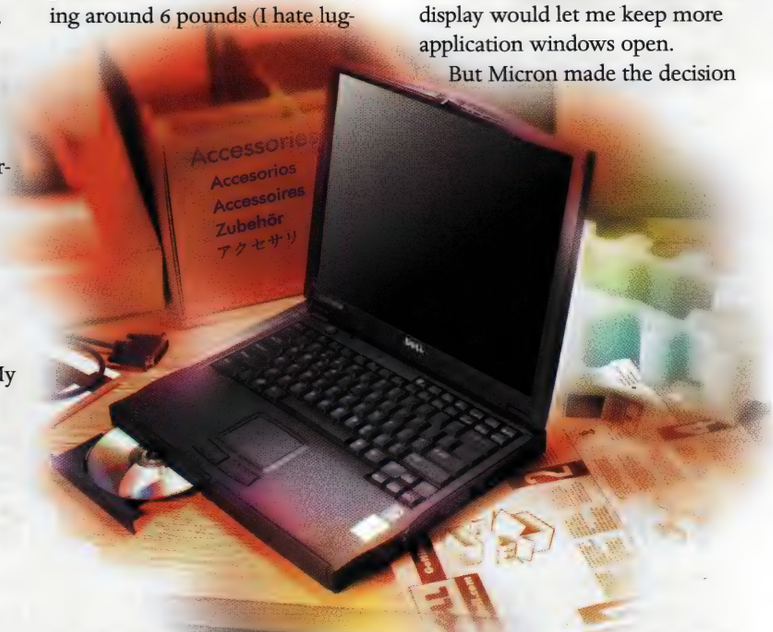
I picked a notebook, since my own portable was years old, and the ones I was currently toting were loaners with vendors clamoring for their return. So I reached for my credit card—I never shop for a computer without it—and dove into the buying process. I didn't have any time to lose, for both magazine and tax-deduction deadlines stared me in the face. My out-of-box experience? I can only hope yours will be so easy.

ORDERING: THE (NEARLY) PAINLESS PROCESS

Picking the perfect notebook may be a task as futile as rolling back out-of-whack professional sports salaries. You pay too much, you get too little, or both. But I was sure gonna give the clichéd 110 percent my coaches always asked for.

Still, with time tight (I had backed myself into a calendar corner and needed the notebook *yesterday*), I went to the most expedient shopping avenue: direct via the Web. Only there could I coax half-a-dozen spec sheets from my printer and price twice as many configurations in the dead of night.

I set myself a limit of $2,000, well above the entry level, but not enough to buy a loaded portable. If possible, I wanted a system weighing around 6 pounds (I hate lugging heavy loads through airports), modular drives (so I could configure to suit the trip), a decent-size active-matrix LCD, and a keyboard that didn't make me feel like Goliath. Naturally, I wanted super service and support.



So I headed to several first-tier standbys—companies whose products I'd either bought or reviewed—including Compaq, Dell, Gateway, and Micron. I expanded my Internet shopping spree to include other vendors, such as Quantex and Tiger Direct, which colleagues recommended. In the end, I narrowed the list to a pair: Dell's Inspiron 3500 and Micron's GoBook. Both met my self-imposed requirements. The only thing that bothered me about the GoBook was its 12.1-inch LCD, which maxed out at a resolution of 800x600 pixels. I knew from experience that 1,024x768 on a 13.3-inch display would let me keep more application windows open.

But Micron made the decision for me by removing the GoBook from its Internet inventory (only the more powerful, more expensive GoBook2 remained) before I could pick. So I dialed Dell.

The rep was polite, answered the dozen or so questions I had, and took my order. The whole process lasted less than 10 minutes. It helped that I had Dell's Web site (*www.dell.com*) open on my screen. To ensure that we were both talking about the same configuration, I walked her through the component selections I saw. I quizzed her about returns (30 days, no questions asked, she assured me), shipping costs ($45 for two-day express), and whether I could decline the Microsoft Works 99 that came preinstalled to save a few bucks (nope). And she gave me an estimated delivery date—Dell does not guarantee dates, she said more than once—eight shipping days hence, with five additional days to wait because of a holiday/weekend combination. In all, it would be nearly two weeks before my notebook showed.

"But we've been running a day or two early," she said, "and I don't see anything in the system that would cause any delays."

I gave her my American Express credit-card number, and she responded with customer and order numbers so I could check my order status via the Web or a 24-hour daily toll-free number. Though I had it on my list, I forgot to ask for a faxed confirmation/quote. Much to her credit, the rep did not forget. Before the conversation closed, she promised a fax. It churned out of my fax machine 14 minutes later.

The total cost was $1,994—$1,949 for the Inspiron, the rest for shipping. And so this notebook was sent into Dell's assembly line. Next came the wait.

DELIVERY: KEEPING TRACK OF THE BOX

I'm impatient. I wanted the notebook immediately, not two weeks down the road. I kept my cool by using Dell's Web site to check on my order's status regularly. Armed with the customer and order numbers I'd received earlier, I tracked the progress of my portable through Dell's manufacturing process. And I signed up for Dell's Order Watch, a notification service that would alert me via e-mail when the notebook shipped from Texas.

Two days after I'd placed my order, this e-mail hit my in-box. My

PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRIS GOULD

new portable PC was on its way. I confirmed this by again returning to Dell's Web site, where I now found a Federal Express tracking number assigned to my order. A quick click on the button took me to FedEx's online tracking system. (UPS offers a similar service, and almost all system vendors link to these sites from their Web sites.)

I could even follow the package's progress through the delivery company's Byzantine process. According to this tracking facility, Federal Express actually stacked my shipment on a delivery van in my hometown a day before it was scheduled—according to the two-day service I'd paid for—but then took it back to the warehouse to deliver the next day. Strange, but true.

Sure enough, two business days after the Inspiron shipped from Texas, the carton arrived via Federal Express. The bottom line: I had my notebook a full week earlier than the ETA I'd been given when I ordered. I didn't complain.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
14 Compared several notebooks using the Internet	15 Ordered Dell Inspiron 3500	16	17 Actual ship date
21 Notebook actually arrives	22	23 Ship date estimated at time of order	24
28 Anticipated arrival date at time of order	29	30	31

SETUP: NO SURPRISES

Snug inside the carton, the Inspiron lay beneath a smaller box, which contained everything from the notebook's modular CD-ROM drive and its documentation to CDs for Windows 98 and a videotape labeled "Setup Video." Laying atop it all was a small poster that showed in excruciating detail the ins and outs of this Dell PC. It wouldn't tell anyone who's spent more than a few minutes with a portable anything new, but it might prevent some anxious moments for a first-time buyer.

I spent the next half-hour checking out the system. The outside of the Inspiron got the once-over—over-plates were in place, the LCD latched and unlatched without problems, the modular 3.5-inch drive popped out, and the CD-ROM drive popped in—while I scoped out the inside with the System applet in the Windows control panel. The machine passed my initial inspection.

Close examination of any new computer is a must. If there's a missing, incorrect, or broken component, you want to know that immediately so you can contact the vendor within the customary 30-day money-back guarantee period. For notebooks, the LCD and the keyboard are of paramount importance to long-term satisfaction, so I took the time to thoroughly investigate both. The display had no failed pixels, and the feel of both the keyboard and the touch pad was top-notch.

I'd cut one corner to lower the price of this notebook by passing on a modem. That was by plan, however, since I already had an excellent 3Com PC Card 56Kbps modem in an older notebook. It was a simple matter to pull it out of that machine and slip it into one of the Inspiron's two PC Card slots, then install the driver software. I had no problems there.

Nor did I have any when I configured the Inspiron for the Net. (Since my machine came minus a modem, it also lacked the 30-day free Internet access Dell packages with modem-equipped portables.) I used Windows 98's Internet connection wizard, spent a couple of minutes typing in the info of one of my ISPs, dialed, and connected. Unlike some computers—particularly desktops at the lower end of the price range—my Inspiron lacked a one-click setup/connection to the Web. No big deal for me, but beginners might want to buy a modem with this portable, if only to get a ready-to-surf system.

USING: FINDING THE GREMLINS

The Inspiron passed my inspection. But would it pass the real test...work, and lots of it?

Its 13.3-inch LCD was bright and clear from edge to edge, with only a bit of fuzziness at the lower right corner. The keyboard sported large, sculpted keys with plenty of travel; unlike some notebooks' membrane-flat keys, these felt like the real thing under my fingers. I wasn't crazy about the miniature function keys, nor about the Lilliputian delete and page-navigation keys far out of reach in the upper right, but I reminded myself that notebooks are as much compromise as computer.

The only real glitch was a weird on-again, off-again lockup of the preinstalled Microsoft Word 97. The first time, I figured it was just bad luck. But when it occurred again, I picked up the phone. A call to Dell's tech support didn't shed much light on the problem.

The wait for the rep was just 3 minutes. But when I finally spoke with him, he was as puzzled as I was and could suggest only that I uninstall Word, then reinstall it. I did. The lockup gremlin returned once more, then didn't reappear during the week remaining before I had to post this article to my editor. (An e-mailed query to Dell's technical support brought back the same advice from a different rep; I had to wait 24 hours for that suggestion, however.)

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For information on how to buy portables
GO TO
computershopper.zdnet.com/texis/cs/query.html?catid=C0000002

POST-PURCHASE REPORT: GOT WHAT I WANTED

Mission accomplished! Without much incident, I ordered, tracked, received, unpacked, and configured a notebook computer in the middle of the busiest shopping and shipping season of the year. (You're reading this in the spring, but I bought my portable just before Christmas 1998.)

I bought a PC within my budget, got the system specs I wanted, and was happy with the machine when it arrived. In computer buying, it just doesn't get much better than this. ▼

WHAT WE LEARNED

- Direct dealers giveth and direct dealers taketh... configurations, that is. Specific configurations can vanish overnight from Web-store inventories. But if you had your heart set on that system, call the vendor; the rep will usually oblige.
- Compare a vendor's direct-by-phone and direct-by-Web prices. The latter may jump, but reputable dealers will honor the former even if they're outdated.
- Eager to squeeze the most out of your buck? Don't neglect to check the dealer's refurbished inventory. Warranties for these almost-new computers are usually identical to really new systems'. I could have picked up a faster 266MHz CPU, another 48MB of RAM, and a modem and saved myself $128 if I had listened to my own advice when I shopped at Dell.
- One of the best ways to alleviate mail-order anxiety is by checking your order's status regularly. If you know where it is—either at the factory or in transit—you're less likely to worry.
- Examine the new system carefully. Report any component discrepancies or unusual behavior. If you bought from a dealer that offers a flat 30-day money-back-guarantee grace period, you're likely to get top-notch service during this period. That's when the vendor is most motivated to make sure that you're happy with the purchase and that you will keep the machine. ▼

SECTION CONTINUES ON PAGE 122

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- 104-key Keyboard & Mouse
- ATX Mid Tower Case
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- 1.44 MB, 3.5", Floppy Drive
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PICK THE SOURCE TO MATCH YOUR COURSE

No single source—direct by phone, direct by Web, retail, and even alternatives such as online auctions—makes a snug fit for every possible purchase. Don't back yourself into a buying corner by limiting yourself to one venue for all your buying. Instead, pick the outlet best suited to deliver what you need, when you need it, for the best price. Phone orders are great if you have lots of questions. Direct by Web is a good choice when you know what you're looking for and don't want to bother with any middlemen. Retail is useful when you require hands-on time with the hardware.

COMPARE, CONTRAST, THEN COMPARE AGAIN

As much as possible, compare apples to apples, not to oranges. When evaluating computers, for example, compare similarly equipped configurations.

You don't need to adjust your source to put this tip into action; all avenues offer opportunities for comparison-shopping. The Web provides tools for comparing products. You can visit sites like *Computer Shopper*'s own *computershopper.com* and CNET Shopper.com's *www.shopper.com* to quickly preview prices for a product at scores of online stores. At retail stores, you can easily preview rows of monitors or an aisle of printers.

ASK QUESTIONS; NOTE THE ANSWERS

There's no such thing as a stupid question when you're shopping, only stupid answers. If your sales source involves a human element, mine whatever expertise exists by asking as many questions as you need. Recalcitrant or inept salespeople may indicate service that's substandard at that dealer.

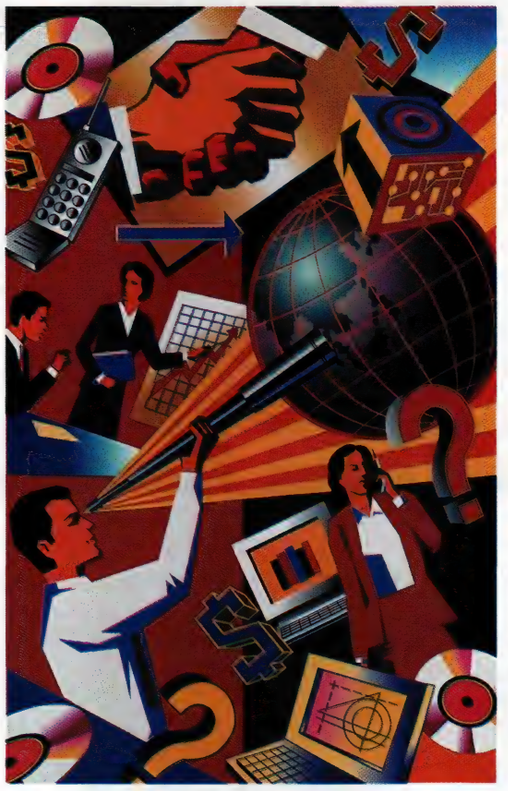
It also pays to note the answers salespeople give you, so you have a record of who said what. Notes may come in handy in a later dispute, or help you recall advice about the right product or the top-ranked seller.

As you go through the buying process, follow your instincts: Unresponsive or unhelpful behavior—or policies—should set off warning bells. You should buy where you are most comfortable.

GET IT IN WRITING

At every stage of the buying process, get the facts in writing. This goes for everything from the computer's configuration to return and support policies.

Don't neglect this tip whether you're shopping direct, by Web, or at retail. When using the former, call and request that any info not on the site be e-mailed or faxed to you. Note that when you're shopping for a system on the Internet, it's almost always necessary to phone to get a delivery date or an estimate. Retail stores should be able to provide you with copies of their service agreements and show you their return policies in writing.



BAIT 'N' SWITCH? JUST SWITCH....

A vendor advertises a product you want at a price too good to pass by. You want to buy, but the rep says the item's out of stock.

"But how about *this* alternative?" he asks. "It's just a few bucks more...." That could be a bait-and-switch ploy. If you aren't familiar with the vendor, consider someone else, especially if you get an unsatisfactory answer as to why the item is out of stock.

PAY WITH PLASTIC

Your best security against return problems is the credit card in your wallet. The card company's charge-back procedure (how you get your money back) offers leverage in the buying process when there's a problem with the product or its delivery.

No matter where you buy, use plastic as much as possible. Credit cards protect you, at least to some degree, while cash or checks limit your options. If a dealer won't fulfill its obligations—by providing the product you ordered configured as advertised—contact your card company. You have 60 days from the onset of the problem to report the details in writing.

KNOW YOUR RETURN RIGHTS

Among your many questions during the buying process should be some related to returns and guarantees. The 30-day money-back guarantee is not always a given, so ask each seller for specific details. Some software publishers, for instance, offer a money-back guarantee, even though your dealer does not. Some hardware products, notably notebook computers and printers, are rarely returnable, no matter how excellent the dealer.

Gather info on other return aspects, such as any restocking fees or partial refunds. If possible, steer clear of sellers that levy restocking fees—which can be as high as 15 or 20 percent—but realize it's standard practice not to accept opened software, even the discs bundled with systems. And ask if shipping charges are refunded if the item arrives DOA; these refunds are rare.

If problems arise and you can't solve them yourself, contact your credit-card company. If you still need help, contact the vendor's local Better Business Bureau (*www.bbb.org*) or the U.S. Postal Service.

But if you follow these tips that should never be necessary—because knowing your vendors and being prepared increases the likelihood of a successful purchase. ▼

ILLUSTRATION BY SHAKIROV/SIS

SECTION CONTINUES ON PAGE 126

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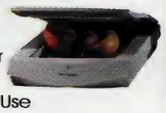
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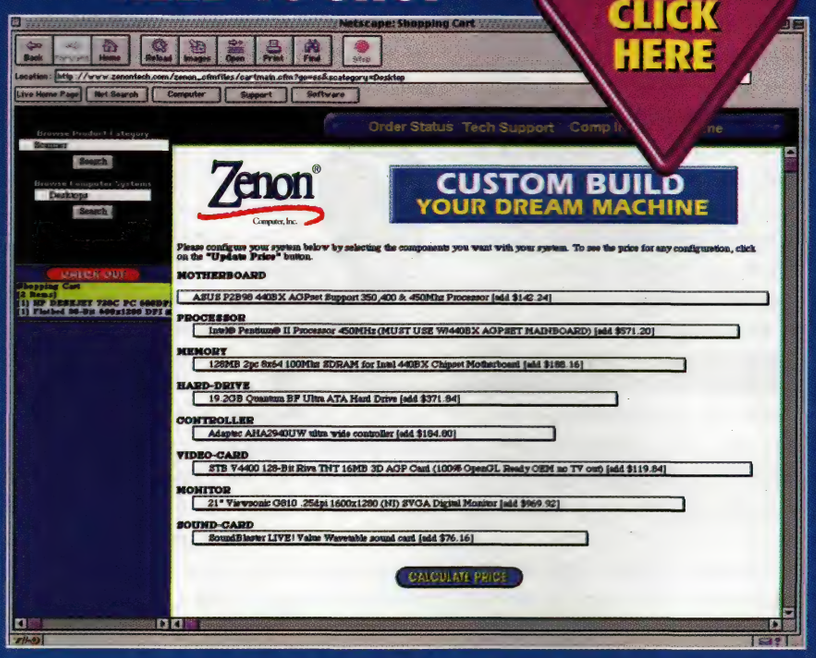
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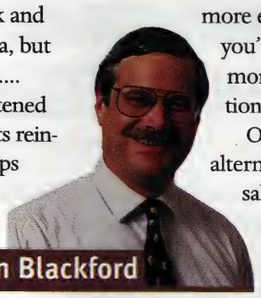
DIRECTLY SPEAKING

PC Tectonics

Geologic shifts in the landscape are happening at light speed.

The sweep of change in the PC and telecommunications industries is becoming almost geologic. Not only is the landscape shifting, but so are underlying bedrock and strata—and not over millennia, but within months, days, seconds....

This transformation is hastened by technological developments reinforcing one another. Microchips not only power the computer, they underlie today's worldwide telecom switching system, and make possible the shift from analog to digital voice and video. Soon, all content that's not a physical object will be stored digitally. Information flow is approaching the speed of light. (So it's ironic that researchers have just announced the ability to slow light beams at supercold temperatures to the pace of a tortoise.) Exceptions aside, the pace is quickening.



John Blackford

PURCHASE BY PIXEL

One obvious implication is e-commerce. Though there's no way yet to ship physical products over the Web, everything else about them can go online: Descriptions, specs, photos, inventory status, price, and shipping data all travel on the Web. A thousand new companies are striving to become part of this process—and as many commentators are forecasting the moon for Web sales. But despite lots of digital ink, little has been made of the fact that Web sales are by definition direct sales—where products ordered online or by phone are delivered right to your business or home.

There's nothing mysterious about the process, but it does have its own logic and rules. Some users are still getting comfortable with the idea of placing an order on the Web—or even by phone. The fact is, Amazon.com has proven that it's incredibly easy, making for a rapid learning curve. Since direct is the traditional province of *Computer Shopper,* we can help you ensure a successful online purchase. Finding ways to see product reviews, check on vendors, and compare prices can save you money and make buying more efficient—so you'll find more and more such information in the magazine.

Originally, the alternative to direct sales was a retail outlet—one where salespeople knew about the products they sold. Today's mass-market retailing is far from that. Basically, you just take possession of a box bearing the model number you seek. You're more likely to get good information about a potential purchase by talking to sales reps on a 1-800 line or checking out a Web site.

In fact, the Web has become an amazing source of independent information on products and companies, where you can chat with prior purchasers of products you seek, and with others who have bought from companies with whom you're considering doing business.

As deep as the Web is, with its active links and online chat areas, it isn't great for reading articles in depth. And if you pull sites off a search engine, you don't have much idea up front what each one has to offer. For that, print still rules. So with this issue, *Computer Shopper* introduces a section devoted to online commerce: e-Shopping. At its heart are descriptions of powerful buying sites—mini-reviews with key features and caveats, plus several Featured Sites each month. From time to time, we'll include articles on the latest trends in online commerce.

Because the Web embraces many categories, e-Shopping will do the same. We've included PC Shopping and PC Resources, of course, but also sections on Consumer Electronics, Books & Music, Financial Services, and Travel & Leisure. We've found some of the hottest online areas, but there are many more. Drop me a line to suggest categories or sites you'd like us to cover.

SEISMIC CONVERGENCE

Naturally, e-commerce is just one of the seismic shifts underway. The merger of the PDA and the cell phone took a jump with Motorola's announcement of a PDA that clips onto its popular StarTac phone. Home networking is about to become a consumer option: After toying with both 110-volt power lines and wireless LANs, manufacturers seem to be locking in on phone-wire-based LANs for the next big consumer push. Expect several this year that may bring networks home for good.

Internet bandwidth is also set to rise as products from both the ADSL and cable-modem camps prepare for rollout this year. Several high-profile PC vendors will also announce arrangements for high-bandwidth service. When you buy a new PC from one of these vendors, you'll be able to select a high-speed Internet connection that will work at your location.

And of course, the Web is giving rise to a whole culture of services and capabilities as PC vendors and others seize ways to make their Web sites into communities. Free services for PC owners, personally tailored sites, automatic driver updates, tech support, and access to college courses are among the new extensions to the definition of PC ownership.

Remember: Change is good. ▼

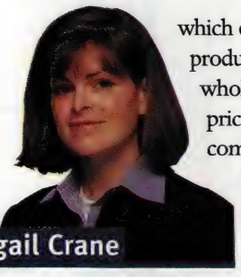
john_blackford@zd.com

THE VALUE VIEW

Better Than Bottom Dollar

E-commerce sites are selling goods at or below cost—make them work for you.

There's a window of opportunity opening up for consumers who shop on the Web. New e-commerce business models that make a profit from traffic rather than sales margins are promising buyers goods at wholesale prices or below.



Abigail Crane

How long this window will remain open, and whether or not the deals it offers shoppers are as good as they sound, remains to be seen.

THE REAL COST AT ATCOST

Take, for example, online auctioneer OnSale's new sister business, atCost (*www.onsale.com/atcost/atcost.htm*), which offers PC products at wholesale prices. The company is banking on the assumption that it can earn enough money on advertising to offset what it's losing in sales margins. To legitimize this business model in the public eye, it's having PricewaterhouseCoopers verify that its prices are valid. And products are covered by the manufacturer's warranty and support plan, so buyers aren't sacrificing service for savings.

But there are additional costs and caveats to be aware of. For starters, in addition to shipping charges and sales tax, you will pay the 2.4 percent payment-processing fee on the total cost of the order (including shipping) that the bank charges atCost, and you'll pay a transaction fee of $5 to $10 for each order. That's not much, but when combined with the stipulations of the company's restocking-fee policy, the overall purchase may no longer seem such a striking deal.

Unless the equipment is defective, you'll pay a 15 percent or $25 restocking fee (whichever is

(continued on page 127)

(continued from page 126)

greater) if you return it, in addition to shipping and insurance charges. That's certainly not unheard of in direct sales, but it's preferable to buy from a merchant offering a 30-day, no-questions-asked, money-back guarantee rather than atCost's "30-day guarantee against defects."

Selection and availability of products is another issue to keep in mind. At press time, atCost sold products from only eight vendors. Although the company claimed to have 35,000 products in stock, the selection within a given category was often sparse. When I visited the site, for instance, there was only one flatbed scanner model offered.

If atCost happens to be carrying exactly the product you want, you've researched it and tested it out in a retail store or at a friend's, and you're positive that you're not going to want to return it, then you might get a great deal by placing the order. But weigh in unexpected charges, smaller selection, and a limited return policy, and you'll find atCost is just one more place to consider when you're buying; it's not a purchasing panacea.

PROFIT WITHOUT MARGINS?

Another player on this new e-commerce field, Buy.com, is a purveyor of many things, not just computing equipment. Its claim to fame is that it will sell products below wholesale prices and hopes to more than make up for the loss with advertising profits. When you buy at the company's computer store, BuyComp.com (*www.buy.com/bc*), product warranties and service and support are provided by manufacturers. Another good thing: The selection of manufacturers, product categories, and product models is quite broad.

Even with the advent of no- and negative-profit e-commerce sites, it still pays to shop around for the best overall deal.

Look closely at the fine print, however, and you'll discover that the amount you're ultimately charged is not the price that's listed. In addition to shipping and handling, there is a minimum fee of $4.95 per shipment. Furthermore, the company adds an automatic charge of $25 for any shipment that's refused, and all nondefective returns are subject to a 15 percent restocking fee. Defective products are covered under a 30-day warranty, but some products—like printers—may be returned only for a replacement, not a refund.

THE TAKEAWAY

The bottom line: You may be able to find great prices on the products you're looking for at storefronts that claim to sell goods at or below cost, so they are well worth a look. Just don't assume that when your final tally is done, you'll always be getting the best deal. Be sure to comparison-shop—and do so based on total cost, including any additional charges and fees. (And don't rely completely on a price-comparison search tool to find the best deal for you; these shopping aids seldom factor in all additional costs.) Some online vendors offer a changing selection of products below wholesale prices to attract new buyers to their sites, or some—like Shopping.com (*www.shopping.com*)—may have a low-price guarantee, which promises a total cost or "delivered price" that beats any competitor's total cost.

The competition for your online dollar is fierce. Especially with the advent of no- and negative-profit e-commerce sites, it pays to shop around for the best overall deal. It's too early to dub anyone the ultimate one-stop shop. ▼

abigail_crane@zd.com

TECH WATCH

The People's OS

Linux emerges from the underworld to great acclaim—and support from mainstream vendors.

Paving the way to a future of open-source computing is Linux. With its long history, strong community support, and technical sensibility, Linux has gone from reigning OS of the underground geek elite to near-mainstream success overnight. One gets the feeling with Linux that the people have spoken, and that they are finally being heard, with several key vendor announcements for support and integration coinciding with the release of the Linux Kernel 2.2.



Stephanie Izarek

But what is really so special about Linux, and who uses it? I turned to Scott Brandsgaard, *Shopper*'s senior designer and resident Linux evangelist, for insight.

"Control and freedom for the power user," he says. Soon after, I was inundated with so many opinions, articles, and links, I've finally come to understand the intrigue. The industry is sitting atop something big, and it's akin to monitoring the flow of lava beneath the earth's surface before the volcano blows. If a vendor doesn't ramp up to support it, well, good luck.

Linux, a Unix clone, was created in 1991 in Finland by Linus Torvalds. It is pitched as an alternative OS for power users, and yes, "control freaks." It's respected for its unsurpassed stability, minimal hardware requirements, wide availability, and minute control over systems and applications. The more robust Kernel 2.2 has a slightly larger footprint, but it is more modular and scales well. It supports more platforms, drive types, and file systems, and it offers advanced caching and improved sound and video.

Linux can be used for just about anything: networking, application development, and even as an end-user platform. It runs on most platforms and offers true multitasking, virtual memory, shared libraries, demand loading, and excellent memory management.

Some users may initially be turned off by its DOS-like command-line interface, as it does not have a GUI, but you can add one of your own design using an X Window system and a window manager, such as WindowMaker, Afterstep, or Enlightenment.

Though Linux initially won praise in the hobbyist desktop arena, the server market is finding the OS to be a godsend, particularly because it gives you all the power of an NT server with less hardware. Despite the high learning curve, IT departments are increasingly drawn to the self-sufficiency of customizing the OS and creating their own apps, so in the end, Linux can be a more cost-effective solution.

Linux is "alternative" in every sense of the word, starting with its birth under the GNU General Public License, which means the source code for Linux is freely distributed and available to the general public for tweaking. It's notable for worldwide code contributions from developers, an extraordinarily devoted following, and even its perplexing sitting-penguin mascot. ("A content animal stuffed to the brim with herring?" —Torvalds) It is the antithesis of the Wintel world.

There are many different Linux "distributions" (or versions) to navigate. A distribution is compiled Linux source code with extra features. Some distributions can be downloaded for free. You can get the Linux Kernel, applications, drivers, and documentation from Linux Online's FTP site, *ftp.kernel.org*, and Georgia Tech's FTP site.

There are also Linux retailers that offer affordable CD-ROM versions. The best-known versions include Caldera OpenLinux, Pacific HiTech's Linux Runtime, Red Hat Linux, and SuSE Linux. (All should offer new products based on Kernel 2.2 by midsummer.) Although

(continued on page 138)



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- 13GB Ultra ATA hard drive✦
- 17" Micron 700Vx monitor (15.9" display)
- 40X CD-ROM drive°
- 3Com USRobotics V.90 WinModem**
- Diamond Viper 550 TnT 16MB graphics
- Advent AV009 speakers
- Microsoft Windows® 98
- Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition
- Free* Office 2000 upgrade
- 1-Year Free△ Training at Micron University

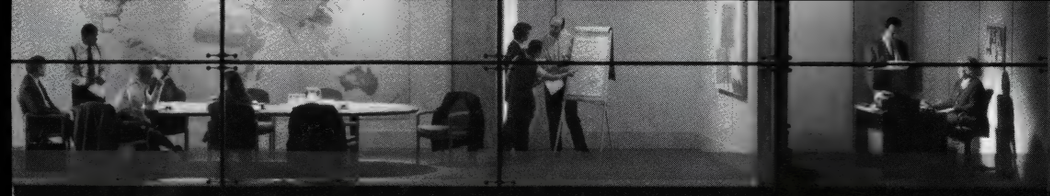
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If you're looking for a system powerful enough to carry you into the next millennium, you've found it. Everything about our new Millennia 500, including Intel's latest Pentium III processor, a one-year subscription to Micron University, NSTL tested Y2K compliance, and Micron's free* upgrade to Microsoft Office 2000 is designed to maximize productivity and minimize cost over years of ownership. When you choose Micron, you get more than a powerful system, you get an entirely new set of tools designed specifically to meet your unique needs. Tools like Micron University, an incredible new online training tool, offers more than one hundred free△ online classes, seminars and self-paced tutorials. Ask yourself how many thousands of dollars your company spends on training. Then order any new Micron system and get a free△ year of training at Micron University. Call today or visit www.micronpc.com.

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YOU ARE WHO YOU EAT FOR LUNCH.

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Learn to do your own desktop publishing -

By learning to use programs like Adobe Photoshop or Microsoft Front Page you can start designing your own newsletters and graphics.

Promote your Web site -

Once you've built your Web site, you'll need to drive people to it. And with courses like "Marketing your Web site in 5 days" that should be no problem.

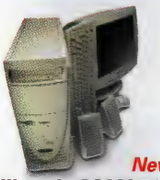
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There's a lot more to owning a system than having a computer sitting on your desk. You'll always want the latest technology, great pricing and service and support you can count on — and that's exactly what Micron's new MPower program is all about. Call today for details or visit www.micronpc.com.

Award-Winning Micron Millennia Systems. Now available with the New Intel Pentium III Processor 500MHz.











Model Name	Millennia C400	Millennia MAX 400	New! Millennia MAX 500	New! Millennia MAX 500	New! Millennia MAX 500
Processor	Intel Celeron™ processor 400MHz	Intel Pentium II processor 400MHz	Intel Pentium III processor 500MHz	Intel Pentium III processor 500MHz	Intel Pentium III processor 500MHz
Cache	128KB internal L2 cache	512KB internal L2 cache	512KB internal L2 cache	512KB internal L2 cache	512KB internal L2 cache
RAM	64MB SDRAM	64MB 100MHz SDRAM	64MB 100MHz SDRAM	128MB PC100 SDRAM	128MB 100MHz SDRAM
Hard Drive	8.4GB Ultra ATA hard drive*	13GB Ultra ATA hard drive*	13GB Ultra ATA hard drive*	20GB Ultra ATA hard drive*	25GB Ultra ATA hard drive*
Monitor	17" Micron 700Vx monitor (15.9" display)	17" Micron 700Vx monitor (15.9" display)	17" Micron 700Vx (15.9" display) monitor	17" Micron 700Vx (15.9" display) monitor	15" Micron LCD flat panel display
DVD/CD-ROM	40X CD-ROM drive*	40X CD-ROM drive*	40X CD-ROM drive*	6X max speed DVD ROM drive	6X max speed DVD-ROM drive
Modem	3Com USRobotics V.90 WinModem**	3Com USRobotics V.90 WinModem**	3Com USRobotics V.90 WinModem**	3Com USRobotics V.90 WinModem**	3Com USRobotics V.90 WinModem**
Graphics	8MB AGP graphics nVidia Riva 128 ZX	8MB Real 3D Starfighter AGP graphics	16MB Diamond Viper 550 TnT 2X AGP graphics	16MB Diamond Viper 550 TnT 2X AGP graphics	16MB Diamond Viper 550 TnT AGP graphics
Sound System	PCI 64-voice Wavetable sound	PCI 128-voice Wavetable sound	PCI 128-voice Wavetable sound	PCI 128-voice Wavetable sound	Sound Blaster LIVE! Value audio card
Speakers	Advent AV009 speakers	Advent AV009 speakers	Advent AV009 speakers	Advent AV009 3-piece speaker set	Monsoon 3-piece flat panel speaker system
Warranty	5-year/3-year Micron Power™ limited warranty	5-year/3-year Micron Power limited warranty	5-year/3-year Micron Power limited warranty	5-year/3-year Micron Power limited warranty	5-year/3-year Micron Power limited warranty
Training	1-year free^ training @ Micron U online	1-year free^ training @ Micron U online	1-year free^ training @ Micron U online	1-year free^ training @ Micron U online	1-year free^ training @ Micron U online
Software Included	Microsoft® Windows® 98 Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition Free* Office 2000 upgrade Norton AntiVirus	Microsoft Windows 98 Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition Free* Office 2000 upgrade Norton AntiVirus	Microsoft Windows 98 Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition Free* Office 2000 upgrade Norton AntiVirus	Microsoft Windows 98 Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition Free* Office 2000 upgrade Norton AntiVirus	Microsoft Windows 98 Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition Free* Office 2000 upgrade Norton AntiVirus
Also Includes:	MicroTower™ case 104-key enhanced keyboard Microsoft IntelliMouse® 3.5" floppy drive	MiniTower case 104-key enhanced keyboard Microsoft IntelliMouse 3.5" floppy drive	MiniTower case 104-key enhanced keyboard Microsoft IntelliMouse 3.5" floppy drive	100MB Iomega Zip drive MiniTower case 104-key enhanced keyboard Microsoft IntelliMouse 3.5" floppy drive	100MB Iomega Zip drive MiniTower case 104-key enhanced keyboard Microsoft IntelliMouse 3.5" floppy drive
Factory Direct Price	$1,299 $45/mo. Business Lease 36 mos.**	$1,599 $55/mo. Business Lease 36 mos.**	$1,999 $69/mo. Business Lease 36 mos.**	$2,499 $87/mo. Business Lease 36 mos.**	$3,499 $121/mo. Business Lease 36 mos.**
Order Code:	50150	40150	40152	40154	40156
Upgrade to:	Upgrade to: 19" Micron 900Lx (18" display) monitor 4.8X max speed DVD-ROM drive*** 13GB Ultra ATA hard drive*	Upgrade to: 17" Micron Trinitron (16" display) monitor 6X max speed DVD-ROM drive*** 16MB Diamond Viper 550 TnT 2X AGP graphics	Upgrade to: 19" Micron 900Lx (18" display) monitor 6X max speed DVD-ROM drive*** 128MB 100MHz SDRAM	Upgrade to: 19" Micron 900Lx (18" display) monitor 2nd and 3rd year on-site service (USA only)	Upgrade to: 256MB 100MHz SDRAM Sony CD R/RW (Recordable/ReWritable)***
Factory Direct Price	$1,699 $59/mo. Business Lease 36 mos.**	$1,899 $66/mo. Business Lease 36 mos.**	$2,459 $86/mo. Business Lease 36 mos.**	$2,829 $98/mo. Business Lease 36 mos.**	$3,999 $128/mo. Business Lease 36 mos.**
Order Code:	50151	40151	40153	40155	40157

The Critics Rave

New!
PC MAGAZINE EDITORS' CHOICE
Millennia C400
Feb '99

PC WORLD
Millennia 400 MAX
#1 Power Desktop
#1 Gaming System
Dec '98

PC WORLD BEST BUY
Millennia 450 MAX
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PC WORLD BEST BUY
Millennia 400 DVD
Sept '98
Oct '98

PC WORLD BEST BUY
Millennia 350
Sept '98
Oct '98

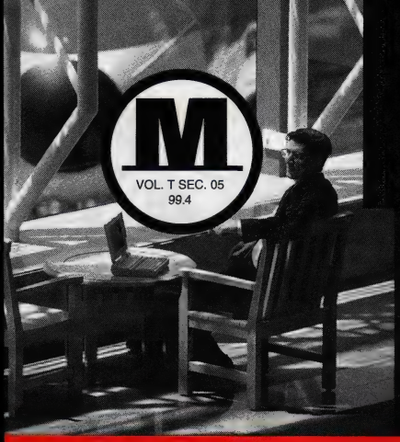
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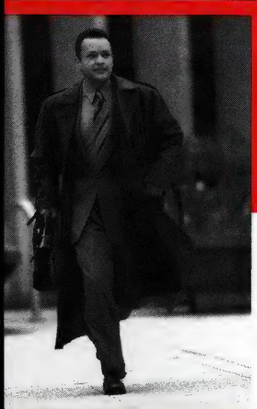


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Free Training - Micron users can learn to better utilize the tools of their trade. Whether it's Microsoft PowerPoint or desktop publishing you need, Micron University offers over 150 online classes, seminars and self-paced tutorials, to teach you more.



TURN YOUR SALESFORCE INTO A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH.

TREK²



POWER USER SPECIAL
TREK² 366MHz
The Ultimate Desktop Replacement

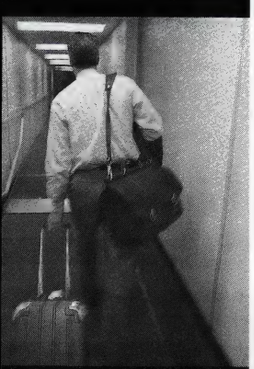
$3,699

- Intel's New Pentium® II processor 366MHz
- 128MB SDRAM
- *New!* 10GB hard drive (removable) ❖
- 14.1" XGA TFT display
- 24X CD-ROM drive° (dedicated bay)
- 4MB AGP graphics
- 3.5" floppy drive (dedicated bay)
- Microsoft® Windows 98®
- Free Office 2000 Upgrade*
- 1-Year Free$^{\Delta}$ Training at Micron U online

Clients Don't

"The TransPort TREK is the Fastest Budget Notebook We've Run Through Our Mill."‡‡ —*PC World*, Ranked #1 "Best Buy," April '98

Come To



YOU.

AT THESE PRICES YOU CAN AFFORD TO ARM YOUR ENTIRE SALESFORCE WITH POWERFUL MICRON PORTABLES



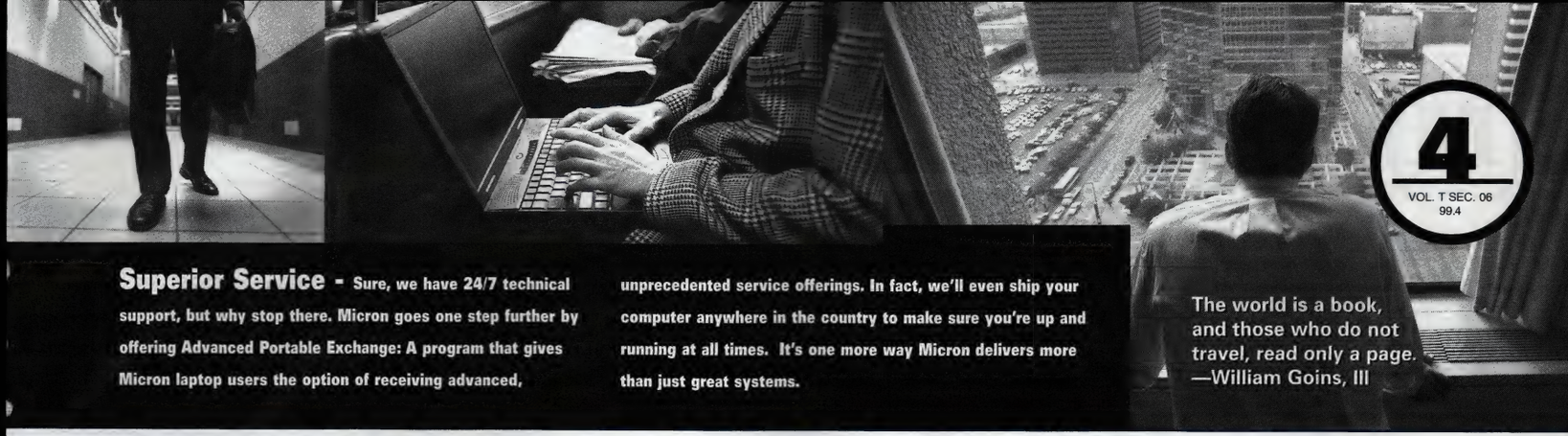
Experts and industry pundits agree that Micron makes some of the world's best notebooks. Our product lines have won the coveted *PC Magazine* Editors' Choice award along with a myriad of other prestigious awards. And the new TransPort® TREK²™ is no exception. *PC World* ranked the new TransPort TREK the #1 budget notebook available today††. And with a Pentium II processor 366MHz, AGP graphics, 1-year free$^{\Delta}$ training at Micron U, optional DVD and a gigantic 14.1" display, the TransPort TREK² is one of the best desktop replacements you can buy. Call Micron today and get a TransPort TREK² custom configured to your specific needs direct from the factory at unbelievably low prices.

intel inside
pentium® II PROCESSOR

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Superior Service - Sure, we have 24/7 technical support, but why stop there. Micron goes one step further by offering Advanced Portable Exchange: A program that gives Micron laptop users the option of receiving advanced, unprecedented service offerings. In fact, we'll even ship your computer anywhere in the country to make sure you're up and running at all times. It's one more way Micron delivers more than just great systems.

The world is a book, and those who do not travel, read only a page.
—William Goins, III

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"First things first: we've got to acknowledge the fastest Pentium-class notebook that we have ever tested - TransPort TREK².''

—*CNET*, January '99







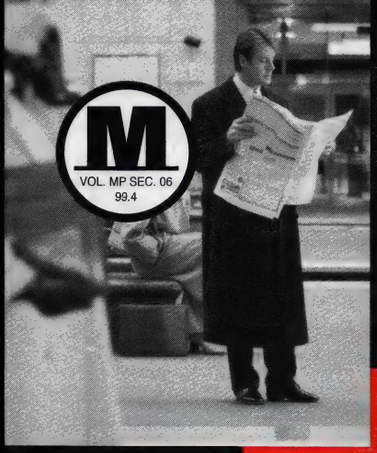


366MHz Power Special

Model Name	TREK² 300	TREK² 300	New! TREK² 333	New! TREK² 366
Processor	Intel® Celeron™ processor 300MHz	Intel Pentium II processor 300PE MHz	Intel Pentium II processor 333MHz	Intel Pentium II processor 366MHz
Cache	128KB L2 pipeline burst cache	256KB L2 pipeline burst cache	256KB L2 pipeline burst cache	256KB L2 pipeline burst cache
RAM	32MB EDO DRAM	64MB SDRAM	64MB SDRAM	128MB SDRAM
Hard Drive	4GB hard drive (removable)◆	6GB hard drive (removable)◆	6GB hard drive (removable)◆	10GB hard drive (removable)◆
Monitor	12.1" SVGA TFT display	13.3" XGA TFT display	14.1" XGA TFT display	14.1" XGA TFT display
Extra Storage	3.5" floppy disk drive (dedicated bay)	3.5" floppy disk drive (dedicated bay)	3.5" floppy disk drive (dedicated bay)	3.5" floppy disk drive (dedicated bay)
CD-ROM	24X CD-ROM drive° (dedicated bay)	24X CD-ROM drive° (dedicated bay)	24X CD-ROM drive° (dedicated bay)	24X CD-ROM drive° (dedicated bay)
Graphics	4MB AGP graphics accelerator	4MB AGP graphics accelerator	4MB AGP graphics accelerator	4MB AGP graphics accelerator
Sound System	Built-in stereo speakers & microphone	Built-in stereo speakers & microphone	Built-in stereo speakers & microphone	Built-in stereo speakers & microphone
Warranty	5-year/1-year Micron limited warranty	5-year/1-year Micron limited warranty	5-year/1-year Micron limited warranty	5-year/1-year Micron limited warranty
Software Included	Microsoft® Windows® 98 System Wizard Mobile Client†††† Norton AntiVirus	Microsoft Windows 98 Microsoft Office Small Business Edition Free* Upgrade to Microsoft Office 2000 System Wizard Mobile Client†††† Norton AntiVirus	Microsoft Windows 98 Microsoft Office Small Business Edition Free* Upgrade to Microsoft Office 2000 System Wizard Mobile Client†††† Norton AntiVirus	Microsoft Windows 98 System Wizard Mobile Client†††† Norton AntiVirus
Training:	1-year free^ training at Micron U online	1-year free^ training at Micron U online	1-year free^ training at Micron U online	1-year free^ training at Micron U online
Also Includes:	Zoomed Video capable Li-Ion battery (dedicated bay) Microphone, stereo line-in/out jacks Touchpad pointing device CardBus ready S-Video & NTSC out; MPEG compatible Wavetable/3D Positional Sound 2-way fast infrared port 2 Type II/1 Type III PCMCIA slots 2-USB, parallel, serial, VGA, PS/2 ports	Zoomed Video capable Li-Ion battery (dedicated bay) Microphone, stereo line-in/out jacks Touchpad pointing device CardBus ready S-Video & NTSC out; MPEG compatible Wavetable/3D Positional Sound 2-way fast infrared port 2 Type II/1 Type III PCMCIA slots 2-USB, parallel, serial, VGA, PS/2 ports	Zoomed Video capable Li-Ion battery (dedicated bay) Microphone, stereo line-in/out jacks Touchpad pointing device CardBus ready S-Video & NTSC out; MPEG compatible Wavetable/3D Positional Sound 2-way fast infrared port 2 Type II/1 Type III PCMCIA slots 2-USB, parallel, serial, VGA, PS/2 ports	Zoomed Video capable Li-Ion battery (dedicated bay) Microphone, stereo line-in/out jacks Touchpad pointing device CardBus ready S-Video & NTSC out; MPEG compatible Wavetable/3D Positional Sound 2-way fast infrared port 2 Type II/1 Type III PCMCIA slots 2-USB, parallel, serial, VGA, PS/2 ports
Factory Direct Price	$1,699	$2,299	$2,699	$3,699
	$59/mo. Business Lease 36 mos.°°	$80/mo. Business Lease 36 mos.°°	$93/mo. Business Lease 36 mos.°°	$120/mo. Business Lease 36 mos.°°
Order Code:	20050	20051	20052	20053

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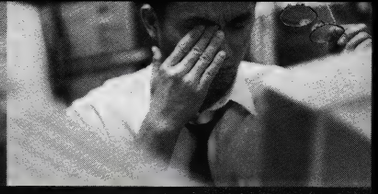
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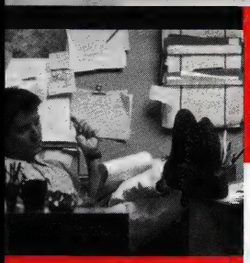
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CRITICS RAVE

"Micron's NetFrame 3100 gives your web customers what they want before they click away."

— PC Computing
A-List, Best Web Server
June 30, 1998



"Micron ClientPro provides gracious plenty" for corporate IS and small-business buyers alike...This Windows NT 4.0 workhorse comes ready to network, with a preinstalled 3Com Etherlink LAN adapter card and Intel's remote control software for system monitoring."

— PC World
November 1998



Micron's ClientPro features Microsoft Windows NT:
- **Easy user Interface**
- **Reliable**
- **Built for Business**

NEW!

CLIENTPRO® CS 500

POWERFUL NEW INTEL® PENTIUM® III PROCESSOR 500MHz.

$2,199

- **Intel Pentium III processor 500MHz**
- **128MB 100MHz SDRAM**
- **8.4GB Ultra ATA hard drive◆**
- **17" Micron 700Vx monitor (15.9" display)**
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- **3Com 3C905 WOL 10/100 network card**
- **Microsoft® Windows NT® Workstation 4.0**
- **Micron's Client Pro is Windows-2000 ready**
- **1-Year Free△ Training at Micron University**

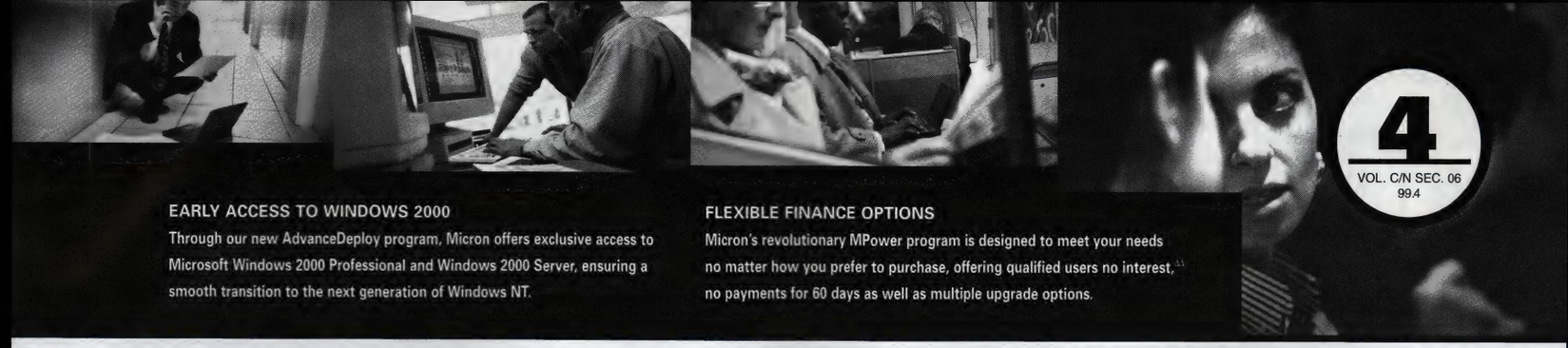
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As your business grows, turn to Micron to help you harness the high performance of Windows NT today - and make the smoothest migration to the Windows 2000 family of products in the future. Micron's Client Pro managed desktops and NetFRAME servers are engineered to give you the network and performance advantages your company needs to get ahead in today's competitive climate. Network-ready right out of the box, built on industry standards, and packing the power of the Intel Pentium III processor 500MHz, the ClientPro puts more manageable power in your office. And if you're looking for a reliable and expandable server, it would be tough to beat Micron's NetFRAME servers running with the powerful new Intel Pentium II Xeon™ processor. Nothing maximizes a network today and tomorrow like Windows NT technology – and no one delivers it better than Micron.

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ClientPro CP 400

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- 128KB internal L2 cache
- 64MB 100MHz SDRAM
- 4.3GB Ultra ATA hard drive◆
- 17" Micron 700Vx (15.9" display)
- 40X max speed CD-ROM drive°
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  Fan, temperature, and voltage problem reporting
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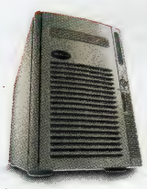
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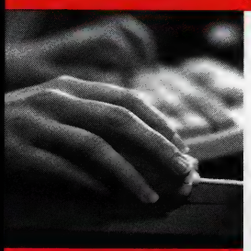
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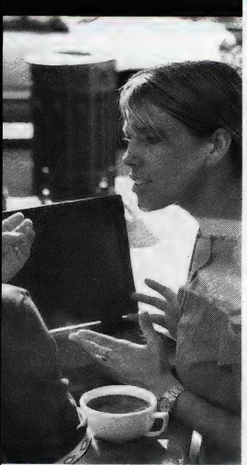
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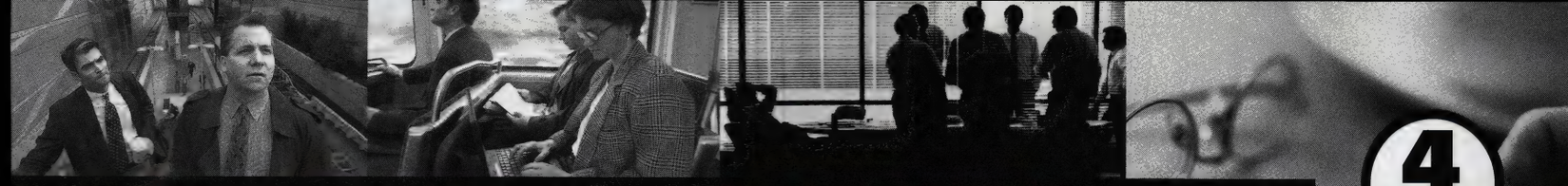
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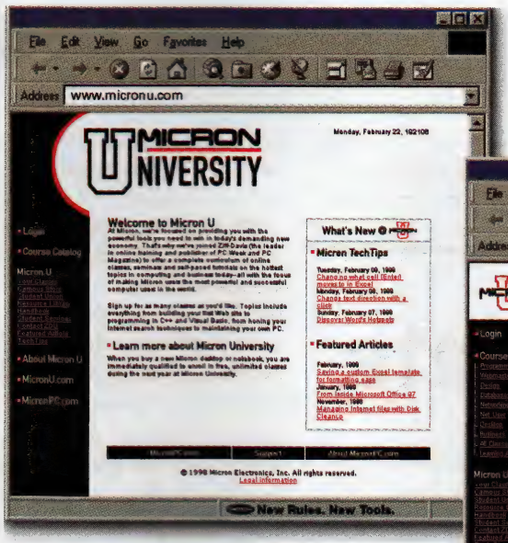
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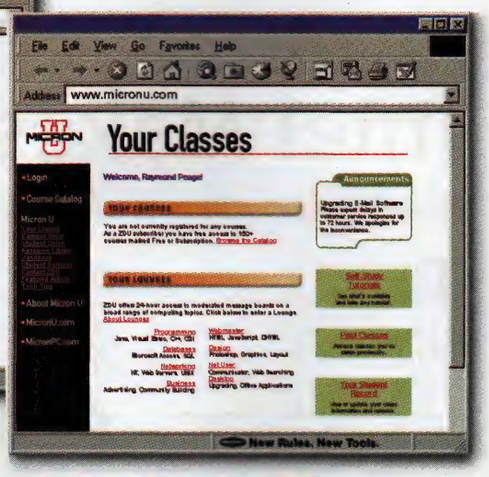
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(continued from page 127)

there is tremendous online technical support for all Linux versions (there is a list of HOWTO consultants at *www.linux.org*), buying a commercial version has the added benefit of service and support contracts included in the price—an element necessary for competing in the corporate world.

Though you've been able to get Linux preinstalled on PCs and servers from companies like Computer Underground, you'll soon find it on more mainstream models, paired with stronger support services. Compaq, Dell, Hewlett-Packard, and SGI have all issued announcements for support. Compaq and Hewlett-Packard will deliver Red Hat Linux 5.2 preloaded on their respective server lines this year. Both companies will shore up their Linux support with 24-hour telephone support and Linux engineers.

Aside from the benefits of a more robust kernel, it's the commercial deals like those spearheaded by Red Hat that have done so much to elevate Linux's profile and make it a viable alternative to OSs like Windows NT. That may go against the free-spirited nature of Linux, but it does make a cool technology available to more people. And as so many Linux advocates have been dying to say, "We told you so." Don't be surprised when those "Don't Fear the Penguin" T-shirts from Slashdot start popping up in your corporate cafeteria. ▼

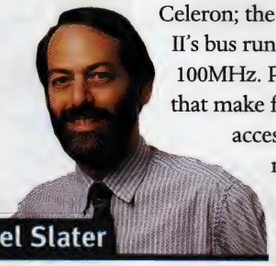
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THE SILICON SCENE

Intel Makes PIIs Obsolete

The new Celerons offer great value.

This year started off with a bang in the microprocessor world, as Intel Corp. rolled out Celeron processors at 366MHz and 400MHz. In fact, considering the shape of the market, these new Celeron chips may well spell the end of Intel's once highly touted Pentium II.



Michael Slater

The new Celerons offer exceptional value, with the 400MHz part priced at only $158 in lots of 1,000—less than half the price of a 400MHz Pentium II. Yet their performance comes close. According to Intel's tests, the 400MHz Celeron is about 8 percent slower than the 400MHz Pentium II in a comparable system configuration. Of course, a better-equipped Pentium II system could increase the gap—and a poorly equipped one could reverse it.

The 400MHz Celeron has a relatively small Level 2 (L2) cache of only 128K, but this cache is integrated on the processor chip and runs at the full processor speed. It delivers a new 64-bit word every clock cycle after some initial latency. The 400MHz Pentium II has exactly the same CPU core, but its L2 cache is built with standard SRAM chips in the Slot 1 module. This 512K L2 cache is four times as large, but it operates at one-half the speed. Thus, performance will vary depending on the cache behavior of the application.

Other factors tend to make Celeron systems slower. Intel supports only a 66MHz system bus for Celeron; the Pentium II's bus runs at 100MHz. Programs that make frequent accesses to main memory will benefit from Pentium II. Note that the PCI bus runs at 33MHz, so peripheral devices are accessed at the same speed in either case. Also, Intel offers the lower-cost 440EX chip set for use with the Celeron, which lacks some of the performance-enhancing features of the high-end 440BX and does not support as much memory or I/O expansion.

Nevertheless, the Celeron processors clearly deliver the best value for most PC users. As a result, Celeron is likely to cut severely into the market for Pentium II. Why would Intel do this? It has had the capability to produce fast Celeron chips for many months, but the company limited Celeron's speed to protect Pentium II's market position.



Intel originally planned to introduce the faster Celerons later in the year and at higher prices. There is only one compelling answer: Intel decided that AMD's and Cyrix's gains in the low-cost PC market had to be stopped. By increasing Celeron's speed and cutting its price, Intel forced AMD and Cyrix to slash their prices. And by making clock speeds below 333MHz essentially irrelevant except in developing countries, Intel raised the bar for challengers such as IDT and Rise.

If the vast majority of Intel's customers shifted to Celeron processors, the reduction in average selling price would be catastrophic to Intel's financial results. This isn't likely to happen, however, for several reasons. In the near term, many business systems remain configured around Pentium II processors, and inertia will keep these systems selling. Furthermore, some users will be willing to pay more for the 450MHz speed grade, the 100MHz bus, additional memory expansion, or a larger L2 cache.

THINK THREE

The biggest factor protecting Intel from dramatic price erosion, however, is the Pentium III. (See this month's Desktops section.) This processor will establish a new high end for Intel's line. It seems likely that by this fall, Pentium II will have been largely squeezed out of the market, with Celeron at the low end and Pentium III at the high end.

Pentium III adds a new set of instructions, Streaming SIMD Extensions, which let multiple floating-point computations be performed in parallel. These extensions will boost the performance of 3-D games, even when used with fast 3-D graphics boards, and will also benefit other signal-processing applications, such as soft modems and speech recognition. For most applications, however, Pentium III will deliver essentially the same performance as Pentium II at any given clock speed. Initially, Pentium III will only be available at 450MHz and 500MHz, providing only one new speed grade.

Pentium III will start to really hit its stride by the end of the summer, however, with the debut of a new version, code-named Coppermine, but presumably to be marketed as Pentium III. This version will feature built-in 0.18-micron process technology. In addition to much higher clock speeds, approaching 700MHz by the end of the year, Coppermine is expected to integrate a 256K on-chip L2 cache. Even though this is half the size of the initial Pentium III cache, because it is on the chip, it runs at the full processor speed. A 256K full-speed cache will deliver higher performance than a 512K half-speed cache on almost all applications.

Last year, Intel's PC processor market share dipped below 80 percent, and it fell below 75 percent in the fourth quarter. These aren't the kinds of numbers Intel likes to see, and its new-found aggressiveness with Celeron, combined with Pentium III, may stop the slide—if not reverse the trend. ▼

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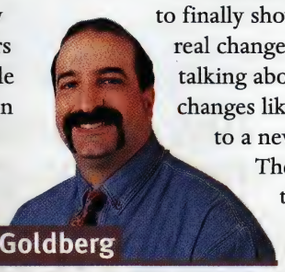
MARKET SCOPE

Low Cost Equals Short Life

Shoppers still have to pay for longevity.

In 1997, a $700 PC was some used machine with ancient software and smudges all over the keyboard. Now it's a brand-new PC. However, the market factors that made low-cost PCs desirable are changing. Low cost will soon equal short life.

No, I haven't been bribed by system vendors, nor have I bet the mortgage on Compaq Call options. The fact is that application and software usage patterns will change substantially in the next 12 to 24 months. It's this change that now leads me to cast a doubtful eye on the value equation of low-end PC offerings.



Aaron Goldberg

Today's low-end PCs might have the features and capabilities that make them viable performers for a lot shorter time frame than they did in the past. The reasons differ for business and consumer applications. It's important to realize that you have to focus on different aspects of future usage patterns, because such wide divergence exists between the two markets.

We'll start on the commercial side. Several issues make the higher-end and better-designed PCs more attractive. First, Intel has finally figured out that for IT professionals, and for those who help acquire systems and keep them running in smaller companies, system consistency is a desirable trait. After all, how many times have you found the right driver for a device or an application, and got it working on one system, only to find that it doesn't work on another similar system?

Starting with the BX chip set, Intel is working on a consistent platform that will not require requalification each time a CPU or other component changes. Even better, the driver set can now be consistently implemented across PCs bought at different times.

Second, the application pattern and requirements in the business environment are starting to finally show signs of real change. I'm not talking about changes like moving to a new OS. The reality is that background processing, originally a mainframe concept, will start to appear in our world. For example, many businesses are starting to put in full-time, on-the-fly compression for e-mail systems. This is the result of the huge volume of traffic and the large number of attached files involved. Rather than bring the network to its knees, it's easier to let a compression utility reduce message size as e-mail is sent or decompress it as it's received.

And if you think mail is the only place you'll use this, remember that video and video-oriented applications are just starting to become popular. Clearly, some CPU power will have to be available for those jobs. And voice integration will also be a part of most business workstations, be it for telephony integration or for the use of products such as NaturallySpeaking.

On the consumer side, the low-end systems are troubling as well. First, having used them, I find them unacceptable performers. I've had to wait days for ScanDisk to cycle through—I generally get impatient and exit. I've endured video performance that took me back to the days of Hercules cards. These systems just don't cut it for me. I'm sure some first-time buyers think they're fast, but I warn you: Just don't buy any cool games. This video-performance issue concerns me greatly. As XDSL and cable modems start to become much more common this year and next, we're finding that the video streams coming in from the Web and the downloaded clips just don't perform well. As more consumers hold PC video performance to TV standards, there will be some unhappy customers.

These systems just don't cut it for me. I'm sure some first-time buyers think they're fast, but I warn you: Don't buy any cool games.

We've had it good for a while. The software and the application requirements in the recent past, at present, and in the foreseeable future are so stable that we could go to low-end systems and not really feel the pinch. Heck, I still have a perfectly good 166MHz classic Pentium in my home. Yet the handwriting is on the wall, and it won't take 24 months for changes to make today's low-end systems quickly look obsolete. It's all about cycles. We've had a good run, but it's coming to a close. Don't get caught in the wrong phase. ▼

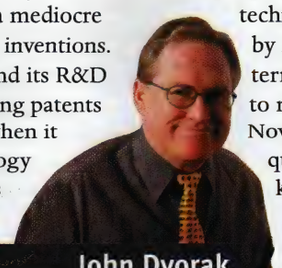
aaron_goldberg@zd.com

FLASHBACK

The Fate of FireWire

If Apple mismanages this situation, the technology could end up another dead end.

Apple Computer has historically been one of the most inventive companies in our industry, but it has done a mediocre job of protecting its inventions. You'd think Apple and its R&D team would be getting patents left and right. But when it does have a technology locked up, it decides to kill it by making it almost proprietary, as it is apparently about to do with FireWire (1394), a technology that has been going nowhere through many incarnations for several years.



John Dvorak

Apple needs to do something. Few people even realize that this technology was invented by Apple. It invented the term FireWire but failed to market it properly. Now the technology is quickly becoming known as 1394. According to Apple, "FireWire was invented in the early 1990s and adopted by the IEEE in 1995." Various sources say the idea was conceived in the late 1980s, but there is no record of this. It is likely, though, since the company was trying to converge the camcorder and video-editing systems with its computers at around the same time. There was talk in the early 1990s about incorporating various video-editing systems into the Mac, and many such systems were to be jointly developed with Sony. Apple finally announced its intention to make FireWire a standard in May 1996.

Now, amid a lot of industry complaining, Apple is trying to fleece chip makers to the tune of $1 per port as a licensing fee for its FireWire technology. According to

(continued on page 144)

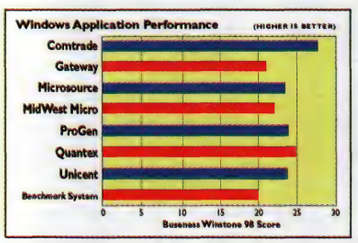
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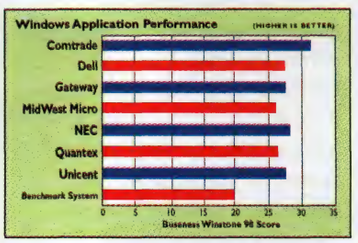
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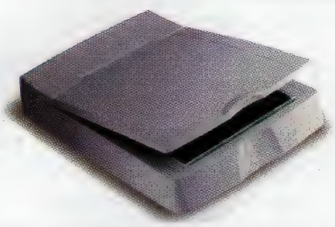
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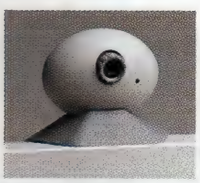
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(continued from page 139)

the *EETimes:* "A source familiar with the move decried the royalties as excessive. Under the plan, a three-port physical-layer 1394 chip that sells for less than $5 would incur an Apple royalty of $3." Nobody believes this is justified or workable.

What does this mean to PC users? Apple will likely put FireWire on its Macintosh systems, but you'll have a situation where there are FireWire ports on Macs and camcorders, and not on anything else. Maybe Apple hasn't noticed that FireWire is not taking the world by storm and could easily become a dead-end technology if the company mismanages this situation.

THE BEGINNING—OR THE END?

FireWire has been modified repeatedly over the years to achieve faster and faster speeds. First there was 1394, then 1394a, and now 1394b. This standard does not want to settle down. Depending on the version, it can achieve 100Mbps, 200Mbps, or 400Mbps. The most recent spec, 1394b, boosts the speed up to 1.6Gbps and can get close to 3.2Gbps. Supposedly, the latest version will be finalized at the end of the year.

With blazing speeds like this, you can see why people are excited. But also consider that even with a lot of tweaking, a Windows NT workstation can barely manage to pump out more than 400Mbps into any pipe. So you have to wonder why there is this rush to unusable speed for home-entertainment systems that may or may not be hooked to computers that can handle the load.

Many vendors are simply waiting to see when the rate of modification stops. That was the primary excuse to do nothing—until now. Ironically, Sony is now trying to change the name of FireWire to iLink through a branding initiative.

SO WHAT ABOUT USB?

Adaptec's site (*www.adaptec.com/products/solutions/1394.html*) outlines the difference between USB and FireWire. FireWire can have 62 devices hooked to it; USB can have 127 devices. Both are hot-swappable serial devices. Right now, USB is 12Mbps and 1394 is 200Mbps. Interestingly, Adaptec sees FireWire as a possible replacement for SCSI, but USB has no such future.

Most observers see the computer of the future as having a minimum number of internal slots, probably one advanced PCI and one optional AGP slot. Most of the computer add-ons will be from the USB and FireWire ports, which should completely replace the serial and parallel ports within the next four years. This will make a higher-performance and more inexpensive computer.

But it will also change the way PC users add features. Unlike Mac users, who have been trained to add extra hard drives, CD-ROM drives, and other devices to the outside of their systems via a SCSI chain, most PC users have preferred jamming everything into the box. In fact, few PC users have any sort of storage device or modems outside the computer box.

I've personally found this to be a worrisome trend because it indicates that PC users prefer an all-in-one package with little or no versatility. This flies in the face of the notion that the PC user needs an "open" architecture. This trend also means that upgrading and changing the system is more difficult. Adding an extra IDE hard drive, for example, is not as trivial as adding an external drive on a SCSI cable.

Either way, the fate of FireWire should be resolved within the next 12 months. ▼

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Computer Shopper's mission has always been to help you get the best PC technology at the lowest price. The wide range of readers' needs makes answering that question a challenging responsibility. Some readers, for instance, want basic business systems; others need state-of-the-art workstations for high-end graphics design and database development. Many are first-timers who just want to get online.

To be all things to all readers, we start by publishing the world's most comprehensive guide to buying computers, peripherals, and software. Then we stock our pages with expert product reviews, savvy shopping advice, and timely previews of tomorrow's technology. And this month, we add a final step to the process: Our Best Buy Awards, hand-picked by *Computer Shopper* editors.

Here's how it works: In each month's magazine, *Shopper* editors nominate the most outstanding products reviewed in that issue. The staff then debates the merits of each selection based on the following six criteria.

Comparative benchmarks typically comprise the Ziff-Davis Winstone 99, WinBench 99, 3D WinMark 99, and CD WinMark 99. To evaluate **price,** we weigh the quality of components the vendor delivers for the cost. **Engineering excellence** is a recognition of technological innovation or significant engineering breakthroughs. As most PC buyers have learned, buying a computer is only the beginning of the PC experience. That's why we carefully examine each vendor's **service and support** policies. We also consider **ergonomics and usability**. Finally, we judge **overall value** by considering all the factors that propel a product from good to irresistibly great.

Using this methodology, *Shopper* editors singled out 10 products this month as our inaugural Best Buy Award winners. And with each upcoming issue, we'll go through the same exercise in an attempt to answer that one question. ***—Dan Costa***

COMPUTER SHOPPER Best Buys APRIL 1999

AWARD WINNERS

DESKTOPS



Dell Computer Corp.

Dell Dimension XPS T500: This system yielded the highest value in our Pentium III roundup, offering a level of performance and components that you would expect from a high-end system at a mighty tempting direct price of $2,457. (Page 160)

DESKTOPS



Gateway

Gateway Performance 500: A great performer, thanks to its massive 22GB hard drive supplemented with a Promise Technology controller. Solid components and stellar support make this $2,949-direct system an awesome high-end option. (Page 160)

DESKTOPS



Micro Pro

Micro Pro Constellation 4200: This system redefines the sweet spot: a $1,899-direct 450MHz Pentium II scorcher loaded with 128MB of SDRAM, a 4.5x DVD-ROM drive, a 19-inch monitor, and an exceptional sound system. (Page 179)

MOBILE



Dell Computer Corp.

Dell Inspiron 3500 C300XT: A $2,299 300MHz Celeron notebook that yields Winstone scores on a par with those of a 300MHz Pentium II. Its graphics scores rise above those of our 300MHz Pentium II reference system. (Page 208)

HARDWARE



ATI Technologies

ATI Rage Fury: This brand-new 2-D/3-D graphics card brought home the highest 3D WinMark scores at prices that were just $20 more than the nVidia Riva TNT-based models. (Page 222)

HARDWARE



Epson America

Epson Stylus Color 740: This inkjet printer's nice output, inexpensive consumables, and extraordinary ease of use make it a great addition to any small office for a low price of $249 estimated. (Page 244)

HARDWARE



Lexmark International

Lexmark Photo Jetprinter 5770: A $350-estimated inkjet that delivers outstanding photo-quality output and includes cool slots for SmartMedia or CompactFlash cards for PC-free printing. (Page 236)

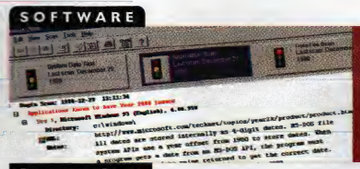
SOFTWARE



MetaCreations Corp.

Kai's Power Tools 5: A great interface and a slew of enhancements over the previous version make this $199-list package outstanding. Plus, it's got fractals! (Page 380)

SOFTWARE



Symantec Corp.

Norton 2000: If you're concerned about Y2K problems, this $49.95 utility will help prepare your PC for the millennium by fixing known problems and predicting future bugs. (Page 364)

SOFTWARE



Raven Software Corp.

Heretic II: Over-the-top 3-D graphics combined with developer Raven Software Corp.'s traditional attention to detail make this $49.95-list third-person shooter a sure hit. (Page 384)

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- *Optional Internal Zip Drive w/one cartridge, add $79*

QP6/366 M-1c(w/Intel Celeron processor 366MHz)..$949

QP6/350 M-2x $1299

Business lease:$46/Mo. Order Code #csa0406

- Pentium® II Processor 350MHz
- 64MB PC100 SDRAM Memory / 512KB Secondary Cache
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- 56K V.90 PCI Fax/Modem* w/Voice Mail & Speakerphone
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- Altec-Lansing ACS-90 Speakers
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QP6/366 M-2c(w/Intel Celeron processor 366MHz)..$1199
QP6/400 M-2x(w/Pentium II processor 400MHz).....$1399

QP6/450 M-3x $1599

Business lease:$56/Mo. Order Code #csa0407

- ***New* Intel® Pentium® III Processor 450MHz**
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- Toshiba MPACT2 3D/DVD Media Accelerator w/8MB
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- 3rd-Generation 4.8X DVD-ROM Drive
- SoundBlaster AudioPCI 64V Wavetable 3D Sound
- Altec-Lansing ACS-90 Speakers
- Quantex highly-expandable ATX Mid Tower Case
- 104-Key Keyboard with MS Mouse
- MS Windows 98
- Corel WordPerfect Office Suite 8 w/Value Bundle
- 3-year limited warranty with 1-year On-Site Service**
- Year 2000 Compliant
- *Upgrade to 17" Monitor w/NEC CromaClear CRT, add $79*
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QP6/500 M-3x(w/Pentium III processor 500MHz).....$1799

QP6/500 Best Buy $1999

Business lease:$70/Mo. Order Code #csa0408

- ***New* Intel® Pentium® III Processor 500MHz**
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- 56K V.90 PCI Fax/Modem* w/Voice Mail & Speakerphone
- 3rd-Generation 4.8X DVD-ROM Drive
- SoundBlaster AudioPCI 64V Wavetable 3D Sound
- Altec-Lansing ACS-90 Speakers
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- 104-Key Keyboard with MS Mouse
- MS Windows 98
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- 3-year limited warranty with 1-year On-Site Service**
- Year 2000 Compliant
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QP6/400 SM-1 $1499

Business lease:$52/Mo. Order Code #csa0420

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- *Optional Internal Zip Drive w/one cartridge, add $79*

QP6/350 SM-1x(w/Pentium II processor 350MHz).....$1399

QP6/450 SM-2x $1899

Business lease:$66/Mo. Order Code #csa0421

- ***New* Intel® Pentium® III Processor 450MHz**
- 128MB PC100 SDRAM Memory / 512KB Secondary Cache
- 13GB Ultra ATA HD / 3.5" 1.44MB Floppy Drive
- 17" Monitor w/NEC CromaClear CRT (16" viewable), 1600x1200 max. res., .25dp
- *New* 3Dfx 128-bit Voodoo Banshee 3D AGP Video w/16MB (Based on award-winning Voodoo 2 Technology)
- 56K V.90 PCI Fax/Modem* w/Voice Mail & Speakerphone
- *New* 6x DVD-ROM Drive
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- Year 2000 Compliant
- *Upgrade to Altec Lansing ACS-45.1 Powercube Speakers with Subwoofer, add $49*
- *Optional Internal Zip Drive w/one cartridge, add $79*

QP6/400 SM-2x(w/Pentium II processor 400MHz).....$1699

QP6/450 SM-3x $1999

Business lease:$70/Mo. Order Code #csa0422

- ***New* Intel® Pentium® III Processor 450MHz**
- 64MB PC100 SDRAM Memory / 512KB Secondary Cache
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- *New* 3Dfx 128-bit Voodoo Banshee 3D AGP Video w/16MB (Based on award-winning Voodoo 2 Technology)
- 56K V.90 PCI Fax/Modem* w/Voice Mail & Speakerphone
- *New* 6x DVD-ROM Drive
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- Altec-Lansing ACS-45.1 PowerCube Speakers w/Subwoofer
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Business lease:$84/Mo. Order Code #csa0423

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- 56K V.90 PCI Fax/Modem* w/Voice Mail & Speakerphone
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- ***New* Aureal Vortex 2 320-Voice A3D Wavetable Sound**
- Altec-Lansing ACS-45.1 PowerCube Speakers w/subwoofer
- Quantex highly-expandable ATX Mid Tower Case
- MS Natural Keyboard Elite with MS IntelliMouse
- MS Windows 98 & Power Bundle
- MS Office 97 SBE v2.0 ***(FREE MS Office 2000 Upgrade offer*)***
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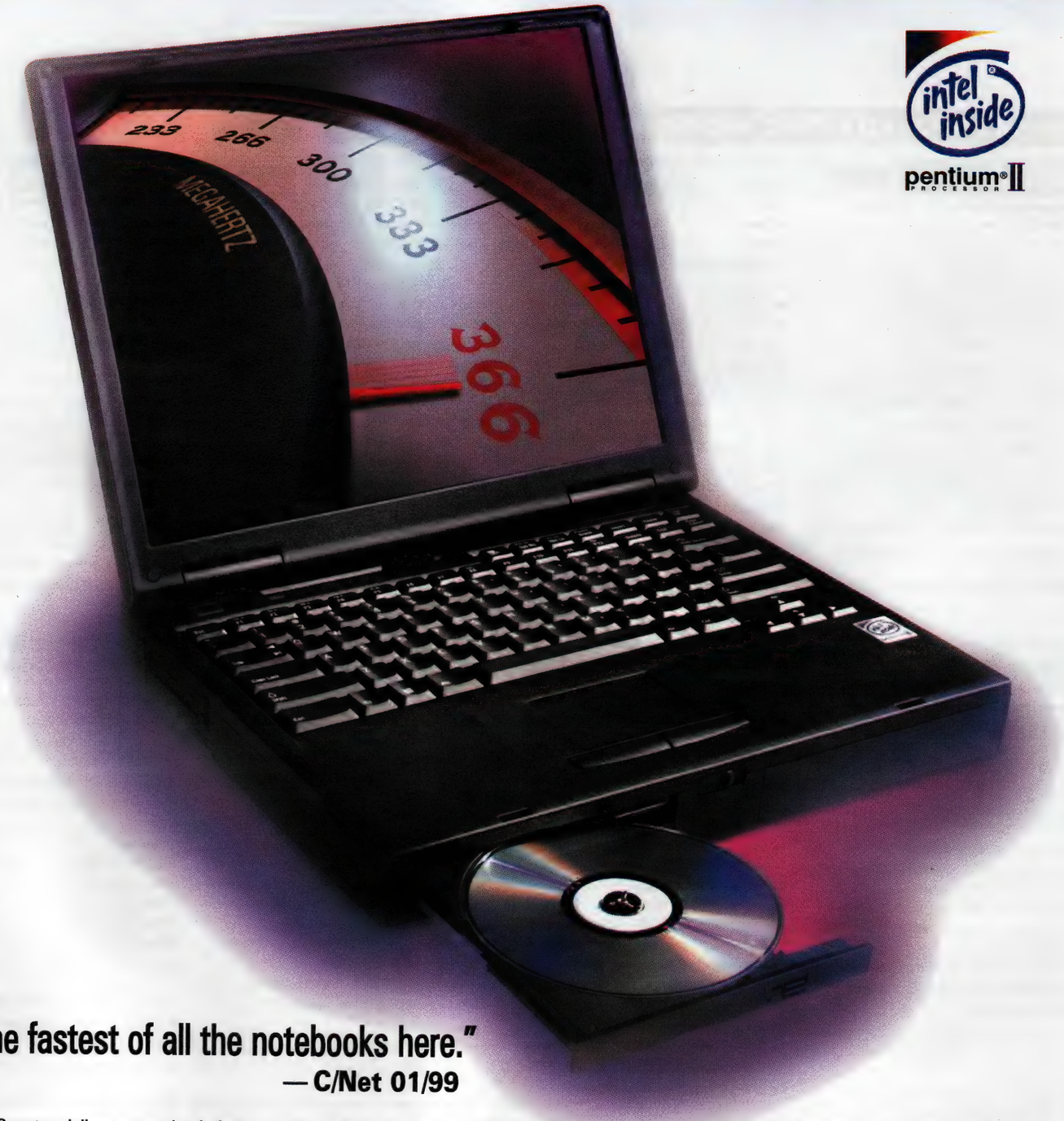
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- Corel WordPerfect Office Suite 8
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Quantex I-1400 (w/Pentium II processor 300MHz).....$2099

Quantex I-1410 $2799

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- 56K V.90 Fax/Modem*
- Removable Combo 2X DVD-ROM Drive & 3.5" Floppy Drive
- ▲ *New* ATI Rage Lt Pro 3D AGP Video w/8MB
- *New* ESS 3D Wavetable Surround Sound and Speakers
- Long-Lasting 12-Cell Smart Lithium Ion Battery
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- MS Windows 98
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- 1-year parts and labor limited warranty on all other components
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- *Upgrade from 6GB Ultra-ATA HD to 10GB Ultra-ATA HD, add $299*

Quantex I-1410 (w/Pentium II processor 333MHz).....$2599

Quantex I-1510 $2499

Business lease:$87/Mo. Order Code #csa0460

- ▲ *New* Pentium® II processor 300MHz
- ▲ *New* 256K Performance Enhanced On-Die Cache
- ▲ **15" XGA Active Matrix Display**
- 64MB SDRAM
- 6GB Ultra ATA HD
- 56K V.90 Fax/Modem*
- Removable Combo 2X DVD-ROM Drive & 3.5" Floppy Drive
- ▲ *New* ATI Rage Lt Pro 3D AGP Video w/8MB
- *New* ESS 3D Wavetable Surround Sound and Speakers
- Long-Lasting 12-Cell Smart Lithium Ion Battery
- USB and Fast IR Ports / Integrated Personal Touchpad
- MS Windows 98
- Corel WordPerfect Office Suite 8
- **Quantex Deluxe Carrying Case - *Limited time offer!***
- 3-year limited warranty on CPU and Main Memory
- 1-year parts and labor limited warranty on all other components
- *Upgrade from 64MB SDRAM to 128MB SDRAM, add $149*
- *Upgrade from 6GB Ultra-ATA HD to 10GB Ultra-ATA HD, add $299*

Quantex I-1510 (w/Pentium II processor 266MHz).....$2399

Quantex I-1511 $3299

Business lease:$110/Mo. Order Code #csa0461

- ▲ *New* Pentium® II processor 366MHz
- ▲ *New* 256K Performance Enhanced On-Die Cache
- ▲ **15" XGA Active Matrix Display**
- ▲ 128MB SDRAM
- ▲ *New* **10GB Ultra ATA HD**
- 56K V.90 Fax/Modem*
- Removable Combo 2X DVD-ROM Drive & 3.5" Floppy Drive
- ▲ *New* ATI Rage Lt Pro 3D AGP Video w/8MB
- *New* ESS 3D Wavetable Surround Sound and Speakers
- Long-Lasting 12-Cell Smart Lithium Ion Battery
- USB and Fast IR Ports / Integrated Personal Touchpad
- MS Windows 98
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Quantex I-1511 (w/Pentium II processor 333MHz).....$3099

T-SERIES "MOBILE WARRIOR" NOTEBOOKS

Quantex T-1330 $1899

Business lease:$66/Mo. Order Code #csa0452

- ▲ *New* Pentium® II processor 266MHz
- ▲ *New* 256K Performance Enhanced On-Die Cache
- ▲ *New* Ultra-Thin Design (12.44"x9.84"x1.37")
- 13.3" XGA Active Matrix Display
- 64MB SDRAM / 4GB Ultra ATA HD
- 56K V.90 Fax/Modem*
- 24X Modular CD-ROM Drive / 3.5" Modular Floppy Drive
- ▲ *New* NeoMagic NMG5 128-bit AGP Video
- Integrated 16-bit Stereo Sound and Speakers
- Smart Lithium Ion Battery
- USB and Fast IR Ports / Integrated Personal Touchpad
- MS Windows 98 / Corel WordPerfect Office Suite 8
- Quantex Carrying Case - *Upgrade to Deluxe Carrying Case for $89*
- 3-year limited warranty on CPU and Main Memory
- 1-year parts and labor limited warranty on all other components
- *Add Modular Internal Zip Drive for just $149*
- *Add 9-Cell Smart Lithium Ion Battery for just $149*

Quantex T-1330 (w/Pentium II processor 300MHz).....$1999

Quantex T-1400 $2499

Business lease:$87/Mo. Order Code #csa0453

- ▲ *New* Pentium® II processor 366MHz
- ▲ *New* 256K Performance Enhanced On-Die Cache
- ▲ *New* Ultra-Thin Design (12.44"x9.84"x1.43")
- 14.1" XGA Active Matrix Display
- 64MB SDRAM / 6GB Ultra ATA HD
- 56K V.90 Fax/Modem*
- 24X Modular CD-ROM Drive / 3.5" Modular Floppy Drive
- ▲ *New* NeoMagic NMG5 128-bit AGP Video
- Integrated 16-bit Stereo Sound and Speakers
- Smart Lithium Ion Battery
- USB and Fast IR Ports / Integrated Personal Touchpad
- MS Windows 98 / Corel WordPerfect Office Suite 8
- Quantex Carrying Case - *Upgrade to Deluxe Carrying Case for $89*
- 3-year limited warranty on CPU and Main Memory
- 1-year parts and labor limited warranty on all other components
- *Add Modular Internal Zip Drive for just $149*
- *Add 9-Cell Smart Lithium Ion Battery for just $149*

Quantex T-1400 (w/Pentium II processor 333MHz).....$2299

Quantex T-1410 $2399

Business lease:$84/Mo. Order Code #csa0454

- ▲ *New* Pentium® II processor 300MHz
- ▲ *New* 256K Performance Enhanced On-Die Cache
- ▲ *New* Ultra-Thin Design (12.44"x9.84"x1.43")
- 14.1" XGA Active Matrix Display
- 64MB SDRAM / 6GB Ultra ATA HD
- 56K V.90 Fax/Modem*
- ▲ *New* 2X Modular DVD-ROM Drive / 3.5" Modular Floppy Drive
- ▲ *New* NeoMagic NMG5 128-bit AGP Video
- Integrated 16-bit Stereo Sound and Speakers
- Smart Lithium Ion Battery
- USB and Fast IR Ports / Integrated Personal Touchpad
- MS Windows 98
- MS Office 97 SBE v2.0 (*FREE* MS Office 2000 upgrade offer*)
- **Quantex Deluxe Carrying Case - *Limited time offer!***
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- 1-year parts and labor limited warranty on all other components
- *Add Modular Internal Zip Drive for just $149*

Quantex T-1410 (w/Pentium II processor 266MHz).....$2299

Quantex T-1411 $2799

Business lease:$98/Mo. Order Code #csa0455

- ▲ *New* Pentium® II processor 366MHz
- ▲ *New* 256K Performance Enhanced On-Die Cache
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Business lease: $117. Order Code #csa0492

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- #9 Revolution IV 128-bit 3D 2X AGP Open GL Graphics w/32MB
- Intel EtherExpress Pro/100 PCI Fast Ethernet Controller with Wake-On-LAN Technology
- ▲ *New* 40X Max Variable Speed CD-ROM Drive
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- WfM Compliant, DMI 2.0, ACPI, Y2K Compliant
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Business lease: $133/Mo. Order Code #csa0493

- ▲ Intel® Pentium® II Xeon™ Processor 450MHz (Dual Processor Upgradeable)
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- 512KB Full-Speed Secondary Cache
- ▲ 9.1GB Ultra2 SCSI HD / 3.5" 1.44MB Floppy Drive
- *New* Adaptec 2940U2W Ultra2 SCSI Controller
- ▲ *New* 19" XP190DF Monitor w/Diamondtron Flat CRT Revolutionary flat-faced CRT Technology (18" viewable), .25dp
- #9 Revolution IV 128-bit 3D 2X AGP Open GL Graphics w/32MB
- Intel EtherExpress Pro/100 PCI Fast Ethernet Controller with Wake-On-LAN Technology
- ▲ *New* 40X Max Variable Speed SCSI CD-ROM Drive
- Integrated SoundBlaster Pro Compatible sound w/Altec Lansing ACS-90 stereo speakers
- Slots: One AGP, Five PCI, One PCI/ISA
- MS Natural Keyboard Elite with MS IntelliMouse
- ▲ MS Windows NT Workstation 4.0 (Windows 2000 ready)
- MS Office 97 SBE v2.0 *(FREE MS Office 2000 upgrade offer†)*
- QSentry Technology (Including Intel LANDesk Client Manager)
- WfM Compliant, DMI 2.0, ACPI, Y2K Compliant
- 3-year limited warranty w/1-yr on-site service**

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Business lease: $200/Mo. Order Code #csa0494

- ▲ Intel® Pentium® II Xeon™ Processor 450MHz (Dual Processor Upgradeable)
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- 512KB Full-Speed Secondary Cache
- ▲ 18GB Ultra2 SCSI HD / 3.5" 1.44MB Floppy Drive
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- ▲ *New* 40X Max Variable Speed SCSI CD-ROM Drive
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- Slots: One AGP, Five PCI, One PCI/ISA
- MS Natural Keyboard Elite with MS IntelliMouse
- ▲ MS Windows NT Workstation 4.0 (Windows 2000 ready)
- MS Office 97 SBE v2.0 *(FREE MS Office 2000 upgrade offer†)*
- QSentry Technology (Including Intel LANDesk Client Manager)
- WfM Compliant, DMI 2.0, ACPI, Y2K Compliant
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- 3.5" 1.44MB Floppy Drive
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- Dual Channel Ultra-SCSI Controller
- ▲ *New* 40X Max Variable Speed SCSI CD-ROM Drive
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- Emergency Management Port & Intel Server Control
- Intel LANDesk Server Manager
- 104-Key Keyboard with MS Mouse
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Business lease: $117. Order Code #csa0483

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- 512KB ECC Secondary Cache
- 9.1GB Ultra-Wide SCSI Hot Swappable Hard Drive (7200rpm)
- 3.5" 1.44MB Floppy Drive
- Intel EtherExpress Pro 100B Fast Ethernet w/RJ-45
- Dual Channel Ultra-SCSI Controller
- ▲ *New* 40X Max Variable Speed SCSI CD-ROM Drive
- Quantex QX5000 Mid Tower Server Case with 5 Hot-Swappable Drive Bays
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- Intel LANDesk Server Manager
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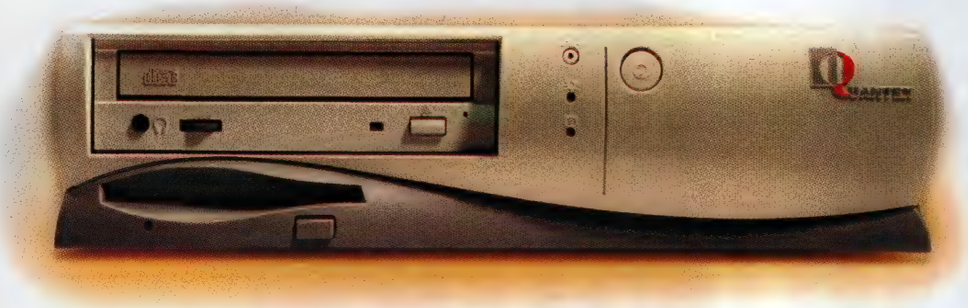
Business lease: $137. Order Code #csa0484

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- 512KB ECC Secondary Cache
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- 3-year limited warranty w/1-yr on-site service**

Quantex VX-400 $1399

Business lease: $49/Mo.
Order Code #csa0474

- Intel® Pentium® II Processor 400MHz
- 128MB SDRAM Memory / 512KB Secondary Cache
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- 17" Digital Monitor (15.8" viewable)
- Intel740 3D 2X AGP Graphics with 8MB SDRAM
- Intel Pro 10/100 PCI Fast Ethernet Controller with RJ-45 and Wake-On-LAN Technology
- *New* 40X Max Variable Speed CD-ROM Drive
- Creative Labs SoundBlaster Audio
- *New* Quantex Slimline Case (12.9"x3.3"x14.2")
- 104-Key Keyboard with MS Mouse
- MS Windows 98
- QSentry Technology (Including Intel LANDesk Client Manager)
- WfM Compliant, DMI 2.0, ACPI
- 3-year limited warranty w/1-yr on-site service**

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- Intel740 3D 2X AGP Graphics with 8MB SDRAM
- Intel Pro 10/100 PCI Fast Ethernet Controller with RJ-45 and Wake-On-LAN Technology
- *New* 40X Max Variable Speed CD-ROM Drive
- Creative Labs SoundBlaster Audio
- *New* Quantex Slimline Case (12.9"x3.3"x14.2")
- MS Natural Keyboard Elite with MS Mouse
- MS Windows 98
- QSentry Technology (Including Intel LANDesk Client Manager)
- WfM Compliant, DMI 2.0, ACPI
- 3-year limited warranty w/1-yr on-site**

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- Intel Pro 10/100 PCI Fast Ethernet Controller with RJ-45 and Wake-On-LAN Technology
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- MS Windows 98
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- Intel740 3D 2X AGP Graphics with 8MB SDRAM
- Intel Pro 10/100 PCI Fast Ethernet Controller with RJ-45 and Wake-On-LAN Technology
- *New* 40X Max Variable Speed CD-ROM Drive
- Quantex highly-expandable ATX Mid Tower Case
- 104-Key Keyboard with MS IntelliMouse
- **MS Windows NT 4.0 Workstation**
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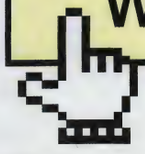
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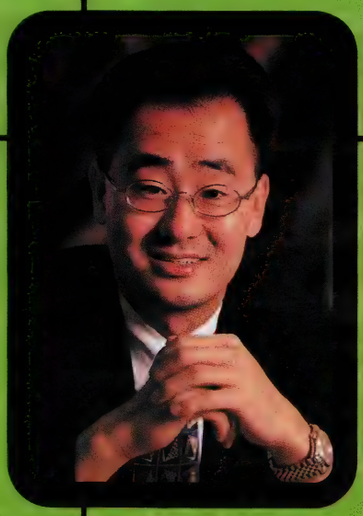
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TRENDS

Privacy and Pentium III: What's in a Number?

Intel's inclusion of a processor serial number has aroused the suspicions of privacy advocates.

Just as **Intel Corp.** began trumpeting the multimedia and security features of its **Pentium III** processor, it met with a chorus of protests from privacy groups that opposed its identifying processor serial number.

The new Pentium IIIs, which run at 450MHz and 500MHz, sport a set of 70 new instructions meant to boost imaging, 3-D performance, and speech-recognition capabilities. (See the feature "Pentium III: The Next Generation.") But there's more inside: Intel also built in a processor serial number (PSN) that can be read by a software controller, pinpointing the identity of users as they travel the Net.

This PSN was meant to facilitate e-commerce, battle software piracy, and enable IT managers to better manage networked systems. Initially, Intel had planned to ship the Pentium IIIs with the feature activated, a method that it thought would not arouse security concerns because the ID controller doesn't automatically broadcast the PSN. Rather, any Web site seeking the ID must first download a request to the system asking permission to read the number, says Carl Larson, marketing manager for Intel's platform security division.

Some security groups, however, believed that the ID could be used by Web sites to compile electronic records of consumers' Web transactions and travels. The **Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC)** and two other groups demanded that Intel disable the feature and recall all Pentium III chips. Barring that, the groups called for a boycott of Pentium III systems.



To allay those concerns, Intel said it would deactivate the ID controller and require users to manually activate it. EPIC, however, labeled the software workaround as inadequate.

Though the privacy issue was unresolved at press time, it's not likely to stifle sales. "The Pentium III will rocket into the market and will replace the Pentium II quite quickly," says Martin Reynolds, vice president of **Dataquest.** "The Pentium II will be squeezed from Celeron at one end of the market and the Pentium III at the other end."

Dell Computer Corp. forecasts that the "very short transition" to Pentium III will be measured in weeks rather than months, although it will keep the Pentium II for its corporate customers into the second half of the year. **Gateway** sees a more gradual ramp to Pentium III. By June or July, the vendor plans to phase out Pentium II processors in its home PC line, and like Dell, will offer the Pentium II for corporate buyers a little longer. "Intel is doing its best to make the Pentium II not make sense," says Gateway's Michael Ritter, marketing manager for consumer desktops. "Intel's goal is to make the Pentium III the steepest ramp ever."

While the transition to the new processor will be abrupt, so too will be price drops. Intel says it expects Pentium III systems to sell for as little as $2,000 this spring and as low as $1,200 by year's end.

Intel is touting the Pentium III as an "Internet processor," which dovetails nicely with the buzz over broadband Net access. To that end, vendors are busily drafting strategies to build in and support ADSL and cable-modem access.

Ahead of the game is Dell, which began rolling out built-in ADSL late last year. To date, acceptance of the technology has been more evolutionary than revolutionary, according to a spokesman, who declined to release numbers. Gateway is considering marketing broadband strategies—most likely ADSL—by year's end through its Country Stores.

NIC AT NIGHT

Broadband is also driving demand for home networking, primarily because family members are tired of waiting on line to get online every night. Multiple-user access to the Internet is what compelled **Compaq Computer Corp.** to push PCs with built-in phone-line networking. "Broadband will snowball in 1999 because the price is coming down and availability is going up," says Fred Von Oldenburg, Compaq's broadband strategy manager.

The vendor offers out-of-the-box solutions using the **G.Lite** standard for ADSL and is working with service providers to simplify qualification for broadband access.

All these factors point to a great year for PC sales, according to Dataquest. PC sales in the United States during the last quarter of 1998 surged 23.5 percent over the year before, says William Schaub, vice president of Dataquest PC Computing. "The embrace of the Internet has really taken hold here," he says. "And Internet-content providers are starting to provide more relevant content as the computer industry does a superb job of delivering affordable PCs." And he says these two factors conspire to assure continued stable growth this year. **—Rik Fairlie**

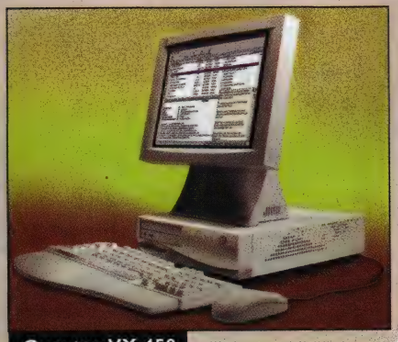
ACTIVE LINKS

www.uawg.org ..... *Universal ADSL Working Group*
developer.intel.com ..... *Intel Developers' Insight*
www.homepna.org ..... *Home Phoneline Networking Alliance*

NEWSBITS

EMACHINES EXTENDS LINE
Emachines, which made a name for itself at the low end of the price spectrum, has added 19- and 21-inch monitors to its product line. The vendor also said it would launch new systems powered by the K6-2 processor priced as little as $399 (monitor optional) and introduce a line of iMac-like all-in-one systems for $699.

SLIM GEM
Short on space? **Quantex Microsystems** has created a new line of business desktop systems with LCD monitors that it says occupy up to 70 percent less space than a standard system. The slim-chassis **Quantex VX-Series** is available with a range of Intel processors, from Celerons to 450MHz Pentium IIs, and includes built-in 10/100 Ethernet cards and a range of management features. A fully loaded 450MHz Pentium II with a 15-inch LCD starts at $1,999. ▼


Quantex VX-450

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DESKTOPS FEATURE

PENTIUM III

BY STEPHEN W. PLAIN

The Next Generation

These six powerhouses take advantage of the performance and multimedia improvements of Intel's latest processor, the Pentium III.

Chip makers typically refresh their product lines several times a year with simple upticks in clock speeds. But every once in a while, they go a step further by building in special multimedia instructions and improving dedicated processor hardware to support them. To date we've seen MMX from Intel Corp. and 3DNow from AMD. Now Intel has raised the bar a bit higher with its new Pentium III processors.

The 450MHz and 500MHz Pentium III chips, previously known by the code name Katmai, debut the implementations of the latest multimedia instructions, which Intel has labeled the Streaming SIMD (single instruction multiple data) Extensions. Intel says the Streaming SIMD Extensions enhance MMX to support more sophisticated software computations and a broader range of multimedia operations, including imaging and 3-D rendering, MPEG-2 encoding, streaming video, and speech recognition. The downside? While Pentium III desktops are here today, you may have to wait several more months for software vendors to catch up and release titles that exploit the new instructions.

The major difference between Pentium II and Pentium III processors is the deployment in the Pentium III of the 70 new instructions that comprise the Streaming SIMD Extensions. Beyond that, Pentium III processors employ the same Slot 1 form factor as the Pentium IIs and are compatible with existing BIOS versions and the 440BX platform. Also like the Pentium II models, Pentium IIIs have 32K of L1 cache, 512K of L2 cache, and a 100MHz front-side bus.

Intel's existing 57 MMX instructions accelerate multimedia operations, but when it comes to SIMD operations that exploit popular multimedia techniques, MMX supports only integer calculations. Streaming SIMD Extensions support floating-point operations, providing a performance boost to 3-D rendering and lighting, animation processing, video manipulations, audio processing, and even speech recognition.

On most legacy benchmarks, the Pentium III performs roughly on a par with a Pentium II of the same clock speed. The 3D WinMark 99 test, however, does show marked improvements for the Pentium III chip, which we attributed to the new graphics drivers that take better advantage of the nVidia Riva TNT graphics processor.

We also noticed a dramatic increase in the results for our 3D Processing Test, with scores twice as high as those we recorded in our 450MHz Pentium II roundup. (See the February feature "Power Play," p. 166.) This improvement is primarily due to the lighting portion of the 3D Processing Test, which utilized the Streaming SIMD Extensions to boost performance. For further test results on the performance differences between Pentium II and Pentium III processors, as well as on the benefits of Streaming SIMD Extensions, see the sidebar "Testing the Waters of Streaming SIMD."

To jump-start developer support for Streaming SIMD Extensions, Intel released technical specifications to software developers over a year ago. At press time, more than a dozen business, Internet, and audio applications were being readied for the release of the Pentium III processor. Although Intel is expected to develop a new

FACT FILE

Category Tested	500MHz Pentium III Systems
Price Range	$2,457 to $3,099
Minimum Configuration	128MB SDRAM, 12.9GB hard drive, 4x DVD-ROM drive (32x CD-ROM speed), 17-inch monitor, Windows 98
Companies Included	CompUSA PC, Dell Computer Corp., Gateway, Micron Electronics, ProGen Systems, Quantex Microsystems

PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRIS GOULD


intel
pentium III
RESET
ProGen
intel inside
pentium III

COMPUTER SHOPPER Best Buys APRIL 1999

The $2,949-direct **Gateway Performance 500** earned our *Computer Shopper* Best Buy award for its superior performance on the Business Disk WinMark 99 test. Its application performance was comparable to that of the other Pentium IIIs, but the Performance 500 solidified its top-flight status with a great set of components.

The **Dell Dimension XPS T500** also earned a Best Buy award for offering all the fixings of an outstanding system at a low direct price of $2,457. The unit's only disadvantages are its comparatively small 12.9GB hard drive and 17-inch monitor.

WORTH NOTING

The **Micron Millennia Max 500's** stand-out accessories include a set of speakers, the Monsoon MM-1000, which delivers clear and loud sound that will enhance any audio experience. The Millennia also bundles Easy Internet software, which helps you get onto the Internet quickly and easily, and a one-year membership to Micron University, where you can take computer-related classes online.

With a direct price of $2,699, the **ProGen Discover MPEG II 500** comes with components that match up well compared with those of the other systems in this roundup and throws in a few extras that make it especially appealing. The Discover ups the memory ante to 256MB of SDRAM, while also providing a DVD decoder board and videoconferencing hardware as standard parts.

system chip set in 1999 that fully exploits the Pentium III and introduces support for 4x AGP transfers, the machines we tested for this roundup all used the Intel 440BX chip set.

In addition to the Streaming SIMD Extensions, Intel has also implemented processor serial numbers in the Pentium III CPU. These electronic serial numbers can be used by applications to help identify a processor, system, or user. According to Intel, the processor serial number should help in the areas of security, system management, and information management. Intel plans to include processor serial numbers in the Pentium III Xeon as well as the mobile Pentium III processor due out later this year. For more details, see "Privacy and Pentium III: What's in a Number?" at the beginning of this section.

THE INCREDIBLY EXPANDING HARD DRIVE

For our inaugural comparisons of desktop systems outfitted with the Pentium III processor, we asked vendors to submit the first 500MHz models they could assemble. Rather than specify configuration or pricing parameters, we left it up to each vendor to deliver its best value package. We received machines from CompUSA PC, Dell Computer Corp., Gateway, Micron Electronics, ProGen Systems, and Quantex Microsystems. Direct prices ranged from $2,457 to $3,099. (Two Pentium III systems from MidWest Micro and Zenon Computer did not arrive in time to be included in this roundup but are reviewed later in this section.)

The PCs in this roundup all seem to aim at nearly identical configurations; look a little deeper, however, and you'll find some interesting distinctions. For instance, we've grown accustomed to ever-expanding hard-drive capacity, but one of the PCs in this roundup goes further by providing a peek at the next performance class of disks. The Gateway Performance 500 came with IBM's latest drive, the 22GB Deskstar 22GXP, which is rigged with a 2MB onboard cache to turbocharge performance. Gateway paired this drive with Promise Technology's new PCI-based Ultra66 controller that supports the new Ultra DMA 66 standard with its 66MB/sec sustained-transfer rate. Not surprisingly, the Gateway's Business Disk WinMark 99 scores soared to 4,630, by far the highest in the group.

The six PC vendors represented here gave the nVidia Riva TNT graphics accelerator a unanimous vote of confidence. We saw this chip in boards by STB Systems and Diamond Multimedia, all of which coupled this lightning-quick chip with 16MB of SDRAM. This configuration offers enough memory to support 1,600x1,200 resolution in true-color mode. Most of the monitors in this group support 1,600x1,200 with suitably large 19-inch tubes.

Four of these desktops also included the Iomega Zip 100MB drive for high-capacity removable storage, and all came with DVD-ROM drives with a 32x CD-ROM speed rating. Only the Dell and ProGen systems included hardware cards for DVD playback, with all others choosing software-based solutions. None of these machines fully implemented genuine Dolby Digital surround sound, but the CompUSA model came with Cambridge SoundWorks speakers and decoder hardware, making it capable of fully supporting the standard. Micron also sent a notable set of speakers: the Monsoon MM-1000, a pair of flat-panel speakers.

Despite quite different hard drives—and even one system with twice as much system memory as the others (the ProGen)—all of these powerhouse boxes produced similar Business Winstone 99 scores. With nearly identical performance among these units, you should focus on capacities and capabilities to find your best bet. For instance, these PCs provide similarly capable graphics subsystems but differ quite a bit in their multimedia hardware.

As always, be sure to scrutinize each vendor's support policies. Fortunately, the standard warranties are all reasonable, though some vary in coverage and upgrade costs. Also bear in mind the software bundles and case designs, and keep your eyes trained on the future by considering the need for drive expansion.

Any of these six powerhouses is a great choice if you're looking for blow-your-hair-back processing power. At least for a few months, 500MHz represents the upper limits of high-speed computing.

COMPUSA PC AMERICAN PRO AP500L

CompUSA PC's American Pro AP500L combines some of the more impressive components—including a sophisticated speaker system and the Iomega Zip 100MB drive—into a configuration priced

HOW WE TEST

For information on how we test desktop systems, see this issue's Reference section.

COMPUTER SHOPPER BENCHMARKS

HIGHER SCORES ARE BETTER, EXCEPT WHERE NOTED

ZD	CompUSA PC American Pro AP500L (128MB)	Dell Dimension XPS T500 (128MB)	Gateway Performance 500 (128MB)	Micron Millennia Max 500 (128MB)	ProGen Discover MPEG II 500 (256MB)	Quantex QP6/500 SM-4x SE (128MB)	*Benchmark System:* NEC Direction SP B450 (64MB)
PROCESSOR TYPE	500MHz Pentium III	500MHz Pentium III	500MHz Pentium III	500MHz Pentium III	500MHz Pentium III	500MHz Pentium III	450MHz Pentium II
APPLICATION PERFORMANCE							
Business Winstone 99	23.5	23.5	24.2	23.4	24.3	24.4	21.7
PROCESSOR SUBSYSTEM							
CPUmark32	1,260	1,250	1,250	1,260	1,270	1,240	1,110
3D Processing Test	64	64	63	64	64	63	33
GRAPHICS SUBSYSTEM							
Business Graphics WinMark 99 16.8 Million Colors @ 1,024x768	171	177	151	151	173	184	176
3D WinMark 99							
65,536 Colors @ 1,024x768	605	714	708	778	487	487	499
65,536 Colors @ 800x600	815	948	945	947	747	745	723
DISK SUBSYSTEM							
Business Disk WinMark 99	2,930	3,520	4,630	3,220	3,180	2,740	2,910
MULTIMEDIA PERFORMANCE							
CD-ROM WinMark 99	1,370	1,430	1,450	1,450	1,170	1,330	887
Scaled Video Playback (% Frames Dropped, Lower Is Better)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

TESTING THE WATERS OF STREAMING SIMD

The Pentium III can serve up significant speed advantages for applications that include 3-D graphics, sound processing, and other complex multimedia calculations—but only if those apps are optimized to support the chip's new Streaming SIMD Extensions. The SIMD instructions enhance multimedia operations. Because our WinBench 99 suite of benchmarks is not meant to test Streaming SIMD-enabled apps, we carried out additional testing of the performance benefits of the Pentium III.

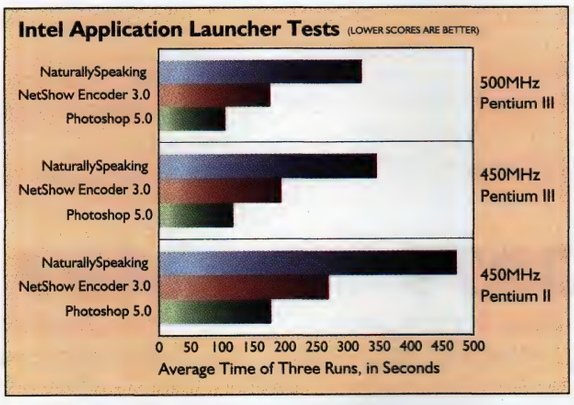
Since there is no 500MHz Pentium II processor to compare with the 500MHz Pentium III part, we used the Micron Millennia Max 500 system for head-on tests of a 450MHz Pentium II and a 450MHz Pentium III processor. By weighing the results of the two CPUs, we were able to determine the performance benefits you can expect with the Streaming SIMD Extensions. In addition, we performed the same tests with a 500MHz Pentium III processor to compare the results against the 450MHz Pentium III to determine the performance improvements between the two Pentium III chips.

We found that our 3D Processing Test exhibits impressive performance gains from the use of Streaming SIMD Extensions. The 450MHz Pentium III yielded a 3D Processing Test result that was a whopping 76 percent faster than that of the 450MHz Pentium II processor. The 500MHz Pentium III processor scored 11 percent higher than the 450MHz Pentium III. These gains are mainly due to the lighting portion of the 3D Processing Test, which takes advantage of the Streaming SIMD Extensions.

To better understand what the Pentium III and the Streaming SIMD Extensions may mean for mainstream applications, we worked with Intel to test prerelease versions of Streaming SIMD-enabled applications. We used Intel's Application Launcher test suite, which utilizes Microsoft test scripts to exercise Adobe Photoshop 5.0, Microsoft NetShow Encoder 3.0, and Dragon NaturallySpeaking Professional.

For each app, the Application Launcher test performs a number of key operations and times the entire process. We ran each application test three times on the Millennia with each processor and calculated the average times.

Comparing the Application Launcher results from both 450MHz processors, the Pentium III chip showed a 34 percent boost in Photoshop and roughly 28 percent in NetShow Encoder and NaturallySpeaking Professional. Comparing the 500MHz Pentium III and the 450MHz Pentium III, we calculated a 10 percent improvement for Photoshop, a 9 percent gain with NetShow Encoder, and a 7 percent improvement for NaturallySpeaking Professional.



We also took a look at a special version of Rage Software's Dispatched, a 3-D action game. This enabled us to monitor frame rates in real time during scripted demonstration scenes and disable the Streaming SIMD Extensions at will. When we disabled the instructions, we visually saw the frame rate drop by about half, illustrating the benefits to gamers. ▼

solidly average at $2,899 direct.

The company takes advantage of the same basic case design found in the Dell and Micron units, which enables entry by simply squeezing the two release tabs on the left side panel. Inside is an Intel SE440BX-2 motherboard. As in the Dell system, the CompUSA's Pentium III processor is covered by an air diverter, which helps channel the heat to an exhaust fan in the rear.

A 14.4GB IBM Deskstar 14GXP hard drive and the Iomega Zip 100MB drive give this machine great options for storage. While the hard drive spins at 7,200 rpm, it turned in one of the lower benchmark scores on our Business Disk WinMark 99 test with a rating of 2,930. Its Toshiba SD-M1202 4.8x DVD-ROM/32x CD-ROM drive delivered performance that was a smidgen below the best of the class.

The STB Velocity 4400 card in this system was competitive on its business graphics performance but ranked in the second tier of systems on our 3D WinMark 99 test. The ProGen and Quantex machines, which also use the Velocity 4400 card, also turned in second-rank scores.

The CompUSA's graphics card dispatches images to a 19-inch Pixie Model 995 monitor, which has a viewable screen of only 17.5 inches.



CompUSA PC American Pro AP500L, Dell Dimension XPS T500, Gateway Performance 500

Though its viewable real estate is half an inch less than that of other 19-inchers in this roundup, this monitor will support resolutions as high as 1,600x1,200.

This machine's chief claim to fame is its audio system. CompUSA combines a Creative Labs Sound Blaster Live Value card with Cambridge SoundWorks' Desktop Theater 5.1 speaker system. The Desktop Theater system consists of a control center, a subwoofer, and five speakers: one center, two desktop satellites, and two rear satellites that sit atop short tripod floor stands. This advanced configuration is designed to take full advantage of Dolby Digital (AC-3) and Pro-Logic surround modes. Though we found the system's surround emulation quite realistic, it doesn't provide the appropriate hardware to output true five-channel Dolby Digital surround sound. CompUSA plans to implement this technology in the future, however. For DVD titles, the American Pro relies on Quadrant International's Software CineMaster program, a popular decoder option. This solution proved capable, with the CompUSA spinning DVD titles deftly during our testing.

The American Pro comes with Microsoft Home Essentials 98 and is backed by a three-year parts, one-year labor, and one-year onsite-service warranty.

The CompUSA PC American Pro AP500L gives you the same components as the other systems in this roundup, in addition to the uniquely flexible speaker system and solidly average performance. And that's a pretty good bundle for $2,899.

DELL DIMENSION XPS T500

Computer Shopper Best Buy APRIL 1999

Dell's Dimension XPS T500 delivers great value by fusing good performance with an

(continued on page 166)

DELL DIMENSION DESKTOPS

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- 3Com USR V.90π PCI Telephony WinModem
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- Yamaha XG 64V Wavetable Sound
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(continued from page 163)

FEATURE COMPARISON

FOR AN EXPANDED LIST OF FEATURES, VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT COMPUTERSHOPPER.COM.

	CompUSA PC American Pro AP500L	Dell Dimension XPS T500	Gateway Performance 500	Micron Millennia Max 500	ProGen Discover MPEG II 500
DIRECT PRICE AS TESTED	$2,899	$2,457	$2,949	$2,799	$2,699
CONFIGURATION					
Processor	500MHz Pentium III	500MHz Pentium III	500MHz Pentium III	500MHz Pentium III	500MHz Pentium III
SDRAM Installed/Max.*	128MB/384MB	128MB/768MB	128MB/384MB	128MB/384MB	256MB/384MB
Pipeline-Burst L2 Cache Installed/Max.	512K/512K	512K/512K	512K/512K	512K/512K	512K/512K
Motherboard*	Intel SE440BX-2	Intel SE440BX	Intel SE440BX	Intel SE440BX-2	A-Trend 6220-BX
Chip Set	Intel 440BX	Intel 440BX	Intel 440BX	Intel 440BX	Intel 440BX
Expansion Slots	Three PCI, one ISA, one PCI/ISA, one AGP	Four PCI, one PCI/ISA, one AGP	Four PCI, one PCI/ISA, one AGP	Three PCI, one ISA, one PCI/ISA, one AGP	Three PCI, two ISA, one PCI/ISA, one AGP
Available Expansion Slots	One PCI, one ISA, one PCI/ISA	One PCI, one PCI/ISA	Three PCI	Two PCI, one ISA	Two ISA
I/O Ports	Two serial, one parallel, one game, two USB	One serial, one parallel, one game, two USB	Two serial, one parallel, one game, two USB	Two serial, one parallel, one game, two USB	Two serial, one parallel, one game, two USB
Hard Drive Rated Size/Model	14.4GB/IBM Deskstar 14GXP	12.9GB/IBM Deskstar 14GXP	22GB/IBM Deskstar 22GXP	14.4GB/IBM Deskstar 14GXP	17.2GB/Maxtor DiamondMax 4320
Hard Drive Rotational Speed (rpm)*	7,200	7,200	7,200	7,200	5,400
High-Capacity Removable-Media Drive	Iomega Zip 100MB	Iomega Zip 100MB	None	Iomega Zip 100MB	None
Monitor	Pixie Model 995	Dell 1000HS	Gateway VX900	Micron 900Lx	CTX VL950
Rated*/Measured Screen Size (Inches)	19/17.5	17/16	19/18	19/18	19/18
Dot Pitch (mm)*	0.26	0.25	0.26	0.26	0.26
Graphics Card	STB Velocity 4400 (16MB SDRAM)	STB nVidia TNT (16MB SDRAM)	STB Velocity 4400 (16MB SDRAM)	Diamond Viper V550 (16MB SDRAM)	STB Velocity 4400 (16MB SDRAM)
Graphics Processor	nVidia Riva TNT	nVidia Riva TNT	nVidia Riva TNT	nVidia Riva TNT	nVidia Riva TNT
DVD Drive Model	Toshiba SD-M1202	Toshiba SD-M1202	Toshiba SD-M1202	Pioneer DVD-103S	Samsung SDR-430
DVD-ROM/CD-ROM Drive Speed*	4.8x/32x	4.8x/32x	4.8x/32x	6x/32x	4x/32x
DVD Decoder Board	None	Quadrant CineMaster C3.0	None	None	RealMagic Hollywood+
Sound Card/Bus	Creative Labs Sound Blaster Live Value/PCI	Turtle Beach Montego II A3D/PCI	Ensoniq AudioPCI/PCI	Creative Labs Sound Blaster Live Value/PCI	Yamaha 724/PCI
Speakers	Cambridge SoundWorks Desktop Theater 5.1	Altec Lansing ACS295	Boston Acoustics BA635	Monsoon MM-1000	Kinyo Multimedia SW-1031
Modem Model/56Kbps Technology	3Com U.S. Robotics OEM Alana DFV PCI/V.90	3Com U.S. Robotics V.90 x2 Winmodem/V.90	Gateway Telepath 56K Winmodem/V.90	3Com U.S. Robotics V.90 x2/V.90	3Com U.S. Robotics PCI Winmodem/V.90
Additional Hardware	Microphone	None	Microphone	None	Toshiba IK-MM1Z video camera
SOFTWARE INCLUDED					
Applications Included With System	Microsoft Home Essentials 98	Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition	Microsoft Home Essentials 98, Quicken Basic 98	Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition, Norton AntiVirus 4.0	Microsoft Works 4.5, Microsoft Money 98, Microsoft Bookshelf 98
SERVICE AND SUPPORT*					
Money-Back Guarantee/Restocking Fee	30 days (10 days retail)/none	30 days/none	30 days/none	30 days/none	30 days/none
Standard Warranty	Three years parts, one year labor, one year onsite	Three years parts, one year labor, one year onsite	Three years parts and labor, one year onsite	Three years parts (five years on CPU and RAM), one year labor, one year onsite	Three years parts, one year labor, one year onsite
Extended/Upgraded Warranties	$129.57 extends onsite to three years	$99 extends onsite to three years	$99 extends onsite to three years	$79 extends onsite to two years, $99 for three years	$79 extends onsite to two years, $158 for three years
Live Tech-Support Hours (ET)	24 hours daily	24 hours daily	24 hours daily	24 hours daily	9 a.m. to 9 p.m. M-F
Online Tech Support	None	Web	AOL, BBS, CompuServe, e-mail, Prodigy, Web	BBS, CompuServe, e-mail, Web	BBS, e-mail, Web

*According to vendor or manufacturer NA = Not applicable

extremely tempting direct price of $2,457. The Dimension ships with a hardware DVD decoder board and also includes the Iomega Zip 100MB drive and software that allows you to adjust the qualities of the sound system. The downside? Dell was the only manufacturer to ship us a system with a 17-inch monitor.

The XPS T500 is based on the Intel SE440BX motherboard and uses the familiar case design of previous Dimension models. The unit's left-side panel comes off easily by loosening a single thumbscrew and pressing two release tabs. The 500MHz Pentium III chip's heat sink is shrouded by a plastic cover that channels hot air directly to an exhaust fan in the rear of the case.

The storage components in the Dimension offer strong performance, albeit with a bit less disk capacity than some of the competition. The Dimension comes with a 12.9GB IBM Deskstar 14GXP hard drive that spins its platters at 7,200 rpm and scored 3,520 on our Business Disk WinMark 99 test, placing it second only to the Gateway's 22GB IBM Deskstar 22GXP. By the time you read this, Dell will offer the 22GB IBM drive with this system for an additional $229.

Like three other systems in this roundup, the Dimension employs the Toshiba SD-M1202 DVD-ROM drive; Dell, however, combines the drive with Quadrant International's PCI-based CineMaster C3.0 hardware decoder card. The CineMaster card offloads the burdensome playback processing of DVD programs from the CPU and system memory to keep the machine more responsive to other tasks.

A 16MB STB nVidia TNT card, which is Dell's OEM version of the STB Velocity 4400, gave the Dimension strong graphics numbers compared with the other units. The Dell system came in a close second behind the Quantex on our Business Graphics WinMark 99 test and split top honors on our 3D WinMark 99 test with the Micron system. The Dimension's monitor offers efficient onscreen controls, but it is the only 17-inch monitor in the roundup.

Dell rounds out this system with a fine sound subsystem: a PCI-based Turtle Beach Montego II A3D card and a set of Altec Lansing ACS295 speakers. This speaker set comes with a powerful dual-input subwoofer and stylish satellites with treble and bass controls. Combined with the Turtle Beach AudioStation 32 control and equalization software, it allows audiophiles to change the subtleties of sound.

Dell includes Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition and backs the system with three years of parts coverage and a year of onsite service. The upgrade to three years of onsite service is only $99, and the company offers 24-hour toll-free technical support.

With its high-scoring graphics performance and flexible audio subsystem, the Dell Dimension XPS T500 offers an above-average multimedia experience at a great price. With a $100 upgrade to a 19-inch monitor and the upcoming IBM Deskstar 22GXP hard drive, the system will be an even more compelling buy.

GATEWAY PERFORMANCE 500



Gateway's Performance 500 affords room to grow in every sense of the word. With a gigantic 22GB hard drive and a relatively spacious case, this $2,949 desktop was configured with future hardware and software expansion in mind.

The Performance 500 is based on an Intel SE440BX motherboard. It also employs a plastic widget to catch the hot air from the CPU and whisk it up and out through the

	Quantex QP6/500 SM-4x SE
	$3,099
	500MHz Pentium III
	128MB/384MB
	512K/512K
	Microstar Biostar M6TBA
	Intel 440BX
	Three PCI, two ISA, one PCI/ISA, one AGP
	Two PCI, two ISA
	Two serial, one parallel, one game, two USB
	13GB/Western Digital Caviar 313000
	5,400
	Panasonic Zip 100MB
	Quantex XP190N
	19/18
	0.25
	STB Velocity 4400 (16MB SDRAM)
	nVidia Riva TNT
	Toshiba SD-M1202
	4.8x/32x
	None
	Ensoniq AudioPCI/PCI
	Altec Lansing ADA305
	Aztech MDF7800V-U/V.90
	Microphone
	Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition, SoftKey bundle, Compton's Reference Collection
	30 days/none
	Three years parts, one year labor, one year onsite
	$199 extends onsite to four years
	24 hours daily
	BBS, e-mail, Web

power-supply fan.

The most distinctive element of the Performance 500 is its 22GB IBM Deskstar 22GXP hard drive. This drive houses a massive 2MB of built-in cache RAM and is connected to Promise Technology's state-of-the-art Ultra66 PCI card, which is required to take full advantage of the drive. The system pushed the envelope on our Business Disk WinMark 99 test by whipping out an over-the-top 4,630 score.

On our Business Winstone 99 test, the Performance 500 turned in a score of 24.2, which was similar to the other units in the roundup. Although it was a top performer on the 3D WinMark 99 tests, the Gateway's performance on the Business Graphics WinMark 99 was low. A faster graphics subsystem would probably have raised the Winstone score considering the fast disk subsystem.

The Toshiba SD-M1202 DVD drive and Quadrant International's Software CineMaster playback software comprise the unit's DVD capabilities. For graphics performance, the system relies on the STB Velocity 4400, and though the card used the same graphics driver as the STB nVidia TNT card in the Dell, it trailed the latter's graphics performance by about 14 percent on our Business Graphics WinMark 99 test. It was, however, connected to a larger monitor: Gateway's 19-inch VX900, which provides 18 inches of viewable area. Another distinctive element of the Performance 500 is Gateway's now-familiar multifunction keyboard, which provides special buttons for playing audio CDs, adjusting volume, launching telephony and other applications, and jumping to sleep mode.

For audio performance, the Performance 500 uses the motherboard's integrated Ensoniq AudioPCI chip, a set of Boston Acoustics BA635 speakers, and a desktop microphone with stand. The speaker set is composed of a small subwoofer and two tiny speakers, one of which has a volume control. The overall audio quality is adequate for business and casual use.

The unit ships with Microsoft Home Essentials 98 and Quicken Basic 98. The Performance 500 is backed by a three-year parts-and-labor warranty, with one year of onsite service. Like Dell, Gateway will extend this warranty to three years of full onsite coverage for $99.

With unsurpassed disk capacity and performance, the Gateway Performance 500 offers forward-thinking storage capabilities. The only component lacking is a high-capacity removable-storage drive. Other than that, this package is the choice for power-hungry enthusiasts.

MICRON MILLENNIA MAX 500

The $2,799 Micron Millennia Max 500 is comparable in style and substance to the Dell Dimension XPS T500. However, Micron bundles some user-friendly extras with the Millennia, such as the one-year membership to Micron University and the helpful Easy Internet software.

The Millennia's case is similar to that of the Dell, and both systems come with Iomega Zip 100MB drives. The Millennia, however, uses a DVD-ROM drive that is unique to the group: the Pioneer DVD-103S. This 6x DVD-ROM/32x CD-ROM drive turned in CD-ROM WinMark 99 scores that were identical to that of the popular Toshiba SD-M1202 drive. The Millennia doesn't come with a hardware-based DVD decoder, opting instead for the InterVideo WinDVD program, which performed well during testing.

Though the Millennia and the CompUSA PC American Pro AP500L each come with a 14.4GB IBM Deskstar 14GXP hard drive, the Millennia managed to score 290 points higher on our Business Disk WinMark 99 test. Part of the reason for the Millennia's higher performance is the way Micron divided the hard drive into two partitions, one 1.9GB and the other 11.9GB. The benchmarks were run on the smaller partition.

Although the Micron's Intel SE440BX-2 motherboard has built-in sound ports, a PCI-based Creative Labs Sound Blaster Live Value card acts as the system's primary sound processor. This card attaches to a set of Monsoon MM-1000 speakers, which includes two strikingly unconventional flat-panel satellites. The satellites connect to a massive subwoofer and are tethered to a remote volume and mute control. This sound system produces good sound, excelling in transparency and clarity. However, we found you had to position the speakers precisely for them to sound their best.

The Millennia is the only system that did not use an STB graphics card; instead, Micron favors the Diamond Viper V550 board. Both the Diamond and STB cards are based on the nVidia Riva TNT chip, however. With this 16MB card, the Millennia tied Gateway's Performance 500 for the bottom of our Business Graphics WinMark 99 test results; however it produced the strongest 3D WinMark 99 results—especially at 1,024x768 resolution. Micron pairs this card with a 900Lx 19-inch monitor, whose display qualities were similar to those of the monitors included with the other units.



Micron Millennia Max 500, ProGen Discover MPEG II 500, Quantex QP6/500 SM-4x SE

Micron includes Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition and Norton AntiVirus 4.0 in its software bundle. The company backs the CPU and memory for five years and the rest of the parts for three; one year of onsite labor is included. An upgrade to a three-year onsite warranty costs $99; two years is $79.

Micron sweetens the Millennia offering by bundling educational and Internet services with the system. The Millennia includes a one-year subscription to Micron University, a

service that gives users access to a special Web site that presents online self-paced courses in programming, Internet subjects, desktop applications, networking, graphic design, and more. In addition, Micron bundles Easy Internet, which helps you to get on the Net quickly and easily and even gives you a 30-day trial access and e-mail service through AT&T WorldNet.

The Micron Millennia Max 500's aggressive price is just below the average for the group, and with accoutrements such as Easy Internet and Micron University, the Millennia offers services that extend out of the box. Its solid components and reasonable price make this system a good bet for high-end value.

PROGEN DISCOVER MPEG II 500

The ProGen Discover MPEG II 500 includes many extras that make its low $2,699 direct price even more enticing. In addition to the same components that you'll find in the other systems, the Discover comes loaded with 256MB of SDRAM, a 17.2GB hard drive, some interesting multimedia hardware, and a handful of useful software titles.

The Discover is one of only two systems in the roundup that uses the traditional lift-off cover instead of a removable side panel. Inside, we found an A-Trend 6220-BX motherboard with two 128MB DIMM modules, leaving one more for even further memory expansion. This was the only system to come with all of its AGP and PCI slots filled. Since the unit uses a PCI-based modem, sound card, hardware DVD decoder, and separate video-capture card, you're left with only ISA slots available. This will present a serious problem if you need to add a PCI network adapter or other device.

The Discover ships with a 17.2GB Maxtor DiamondMax 4320 hard drive and a 4x DVD-ROM/32x CD-ROM Samsung SDR-430 drive for a unique pair among these six systems. While the roomy Maxtor hard drive yielded healthy performance, the Samsung DVD-ROM drive's 1,170 score on our CD-ROM WinMark 99 test was the lowest of the pack. But overall, with its 24.3 Business Winstone 99 result, the Discover was right on par. This system uses the 16MB STB Velocity 4400, which is coupled with a crisp-pictured 19-inch CTX monitor that is suitable for such a multimedia-centered configuration.

The Discover also comes with technologies that are not included with the other systems, such as videoconferencing and DVD components. The Discover's videoconferencing solution consists of a Toshiba 1K-MM1Z video camera and a CD that includes VDOPhone, Asymetrix Digital Video Producer, and SmithMicro VideoLink Mail. In addition, the Discover comes with RealMagic's Hollywood+ DVD decoder card, which makes DVD playback more efficient and provides Sony/Philips Digital Interface (S/PDIF) Dolby output for surround sound. Though the included three-piece Kinyo speaker set does not support S/PDIF, it offers separate bass and treble controls that deliver well-balanced sound brightened by crisp highs.

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The Discover system includes Microsoft Works 4.5, Microsoft Money 98, and Microsoft Bookshelf 98. ProGen backs this system with a standard warranty of three-year parts, one-year labor, and one-year onsite coverage.

With its comprehensive multimedia hardware and software, and generously proportioned system memory, the Discover MPEG II 500 delivers exceptional value for its price. However, the lack of available PCI slots means you should seriously consider possible expansion roadblocks.

QUANTEX QP6/500 SM-4X SE

The Quantex QP6/500 SM-4x SE, with its expensive $3,099 direct price, offers a bundle of useful amenities, ranging from its spacious case to its superb speakers and broad software bundle. In all, this system delivers solid value.

The QP6/500 uses the Biostar M6TBA motherboard. Although there are three DIMM sockets, two are populated with 64MB SDRAM modules instead of a single 128MB DIMM. The unit's cover lifts off after the rear thumbscrews are removed, exposing a surprisingly roomy chassis. Along the front of the box are four accessible 5.25-inch, one accessible 3.5-inch, and four internal 3.5-inch drive bays—the most of any system in this roundup. The motherboard's expansion slots and memory sockets are all fully accessible.

A 13GB Western Digital Caviar 313000 hard drive provides acceptable storage, but its 5,400-rpm spin rate resulted in the lowest Business Disk WinMark 99 performance of this group at 2,740. The Panasonic Zip 100MB drive is included for high-capacity transfers and backups.

The system includes a 4.8x DVD-ROM/32x CD-ROM Toshiba SD-M1202 drive, but it does not come with a DVD decoder. The QP6/500 does feature a rather comprehensive driver CD, however, and there we found a Quadrant software DVD player. Unfortunately, this version did not work on the QP6/500. Quantex said that it had an updated version of the software that works, but it was not sent to us in time to be tested.

Quantex combines the 16MB STB Velocity 4400 graphics card with an Amtran 19-inch monitor that features easy-to-use onscreen menus and a full 18-inch viewable display. The QP6/500 turned in a 184 score on our Business Graphics WinMark 99 test, the best of the bunch by a nose.

The QP6/500's sound system is worthy of special note. The machine uses an Ensoniq Audio PCI sound card with a set of Altec Lansing ADA305 speakers. These speakers consist of a subwoofer and a pair of tower-style satellite speakers, one of which has volume controls. This set has two interesting features: USB support and Dolby Pro-Logic surround capability. When these speakers are in Pro-Logic mode, they emulate a six-speaker configuration. We were impressed with the sound output and control software during our testing because the software enables choosy users to control balances and volume levels via software and save the settings.

Quantex offers its usual software bundle with the QP6/500: a box of CDs anchored by Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition and rounded off with several SoftKey titles aimed at home and small-office users. The system carries a three-year warranty on parts, one year of labor, and one year of onsite service.

Despite the DVD-player oversight, the QP6/500 still offers plenty of value. It has a Zip drive, and its extensive software bundle is a great starter for users looking to build a software library. And with ample available expansion slots, if you want to add devices to your system, you'll have an easy road ahead.

PRODUCT	CompUSA PC American Pro AP500L
COMPANY	CompUSA PC Dallas, TX; 888-226-6772, 508-786-0600 www.compusa.com
DIRECT PRICE	$2,899
PRODUCT	Dell Dimension XPS T500
COMPANY	Dell Computer Corp. Round Rock, TX 800-388-8542, 512-338-4400 www.dell.com
DIRECT PRICE	$2,457
PRODUCT	Gateway Performance Pro 500
COMPANY	Gateway N. Sioux City, SD 800-846-2000, 605-232-2000 www.gateway.com
DIRECT PRICE	$2,949
PRODUCT	Micron Millennia Max 500
COMPANY	Micron Electronics Nampa, ID; 888-634-8799, 208-893-3343 www.micronpc.com
DIRECT PRICE	$2,799
PRODUCT	ProGen Discover MPEG II 500
COMPANY	ProGen Systems Tustin, CA; 800-848-8777, 714-566-9200 www.progen.com
DIRECT PRICE	$2,699
PRODUCT	Quantex QP6/500 SM-4x SE
COMPANY	Quantex Microsystems Somerset, NJ; 800-836-0566, 732-563-4166 www.quantex.com
DIRECT PRICE	$3,099

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ALL SYSTEMS GO

If you're looking for the fastest PC not-so-much money can buy, any of these rocket boxes should fit the bill. You'll find that offerings vary primarily in storage, multimedia options, and bundled software. Beyond that, every one of these six systems can put you on the fast track to PC performance and the next generation of Pentium power.▼

SECTION CONTINUES ON PAGE 178

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PENTIUM III-500 24.3



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Enthusiast KII-380	Enthusiast KII-400	Enthusiast KII-450	Enthusiast KIII-450	Enthusiast PIII-500
❖ AMD K6®-2/380 Processor w/ 3DNow!™ Technology	❖ AMD K6®-2/400 Processor w/ 3DNow!™ Technology	❖ AMD K6®-2/450 Processor w/ 3DNow!™ Technology	❖ AMD K6®-III/450 Processor w/ 3DNow!™ Technology	❖ Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Processor
❖ 64MB SDRAM	❖ 64MB SDRAM	❖ 64MB SDRAM	❖ 128MB SDRAM	❖ 128MB SDRAM
❖ 4.3GB Hard Drive	❖ 4.3GB Hard Drive	❖ 6.4GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive	❖ 10.2GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive	❖ 13GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive
❖ Mpact2 8MB AGP Multimedia Accelerator (2D/3D/DVD)	*Upgrade to 6.4GB Hard Drive...$39*	❖ 3Dfx® Voodoo Banshee™ 16MB 3D AGP Graphics Accelerator	*Upgrade to 13GB Hard Drive...$49*	*Upgrade to 17GB Hard Drive..$69*
Add 3Dfx Voodoo2 3D Accelerator w/ 12MB $99	❖ Mpact2 8MB AGP Multimedia Accelerator (2D/3D/DVD)	❖ 3Dfx Voodoo2™ 3D Accelerator w/12MB	❖ 3Dfx® Voodoo3 2000 16MB 3D AGP Graphics Accelerator	❖ ATI Fury 128 32MB 3D AGP Graphics Accelerator w/ TV Out
❖ CyberMax 15"(.28dp-13.8"VA) Monitor	*Add 3Dfx Voodoo2 3D Accelerator w/ 12MB $99*	❖ CyberMax 17"(.28dp-15.7" VA)Monitor	❖ CyberMax 19"(.26dp-18" VA) Monitor	*Add 3Dfx Voodoo2 3D Accelerator w/ 12MB $99*
Upgrade to 17" Monitor....$99	❖ CyberMax 17"(.28dp-15.7" VA) Monitor	*Upgrade to 19" Monitor.....$199*	*Add Ultimate Game Bundle....$79*	❖ CyberMax 21"(.26dp-19.7" VA)Monitor
❖ DVD-ROM III (32X CD-ROM)	❖ DVD-ROM III (32X CD-ROM)	❖ DVD-ROM III (32X CD-ROM)	❖ V.90 Standard 56K Voice/Fax Modem w/ Speakerphone	❖ DVD-ROM III (32X CD-ROM)
❖ V.90 Standard 56K Voice/Fax Modem w/ Speakerphone	❖ V.90 Standard 56K Voice/Fax Modem w/ Speakerphone	*Add Ultimate Game Bundle....$79*	❖ Aureal A3D™ Vortex 2 PCI Sound Card	*Add Ultimate Game Bundle....$79*
❖ Aureal A3D™ Vortex 2 PCI Sound Card	❖ Aureal A3D™ Vortex 2 PCI Sound Card	❖ V.90 Standard 56K Voice/Fax Modem w/ Speakerphone	❖ Altec Lansing ADA-305 Digital Powercube Speakers w/ Subwoofer	❖ V.90 Standard 56K Voice/Fax Modem w/ Speakerphone
❖ Altec Lansing ACS90 Speakers	❖ Altec Lansing ACS45.1 Powercube Speakers w/ Subwoofer	❖ Aureal A3D™ Vortex 2 PCI Sound Card	❖ Corel WordPerfect Suite 8 & Max's Enthusiast Pack	❖ Aureal A3D™ Vortex 2 PCI Sound Card
❖ Corel WordPerfect Suite 8 & Max's Enthusiast Pack	❖ Corel WordPerfect Suite 8 & Max's Enthusiast Pack	❖ Altec Lansing ACS45.1 Powercube Speakers w/ Subwoofer	❖ 3 Year Limited Warranty	❖ Altec Lansing ADA-305 Digital Powercube Speakers w/ Subwoofer
❖ 3 Year Limited Warranty	❖ 3 Year Limited Warranty	❖ Corel WordPerfect Suite 8 & Max's Enthusiast Pack		❖ Corel WordPerfect Suite 8 & Max's Enthusiast Pack
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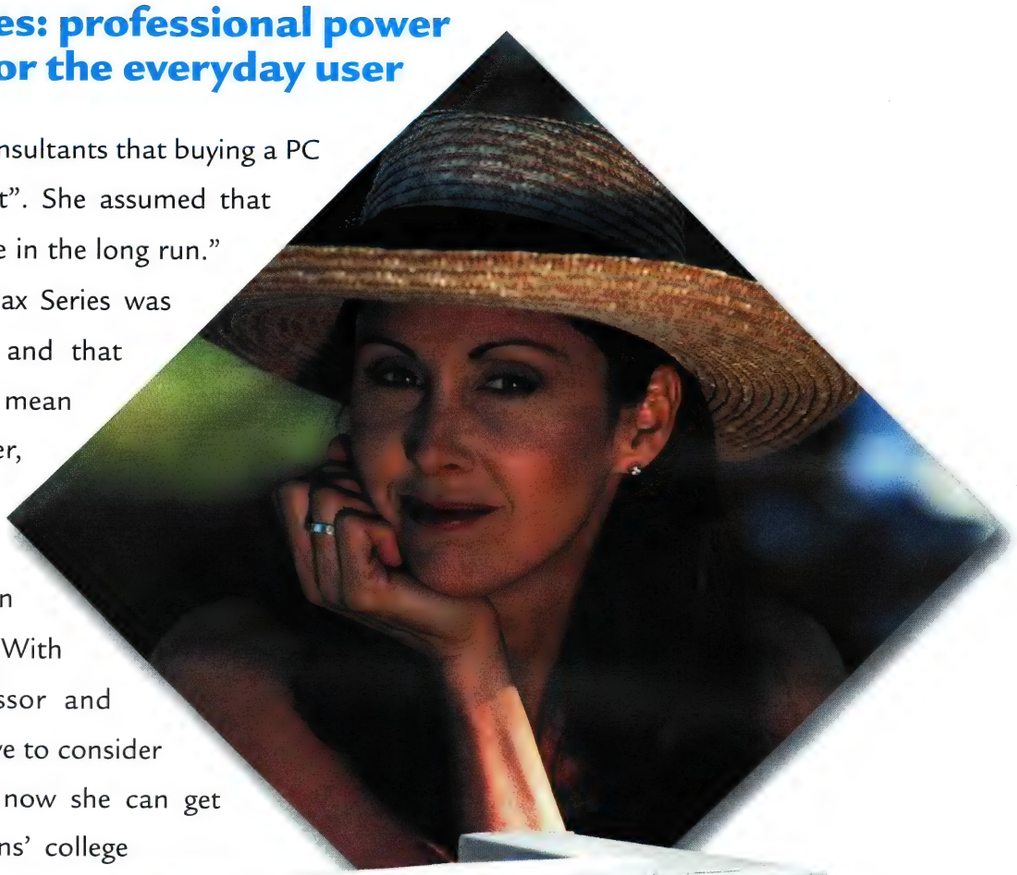
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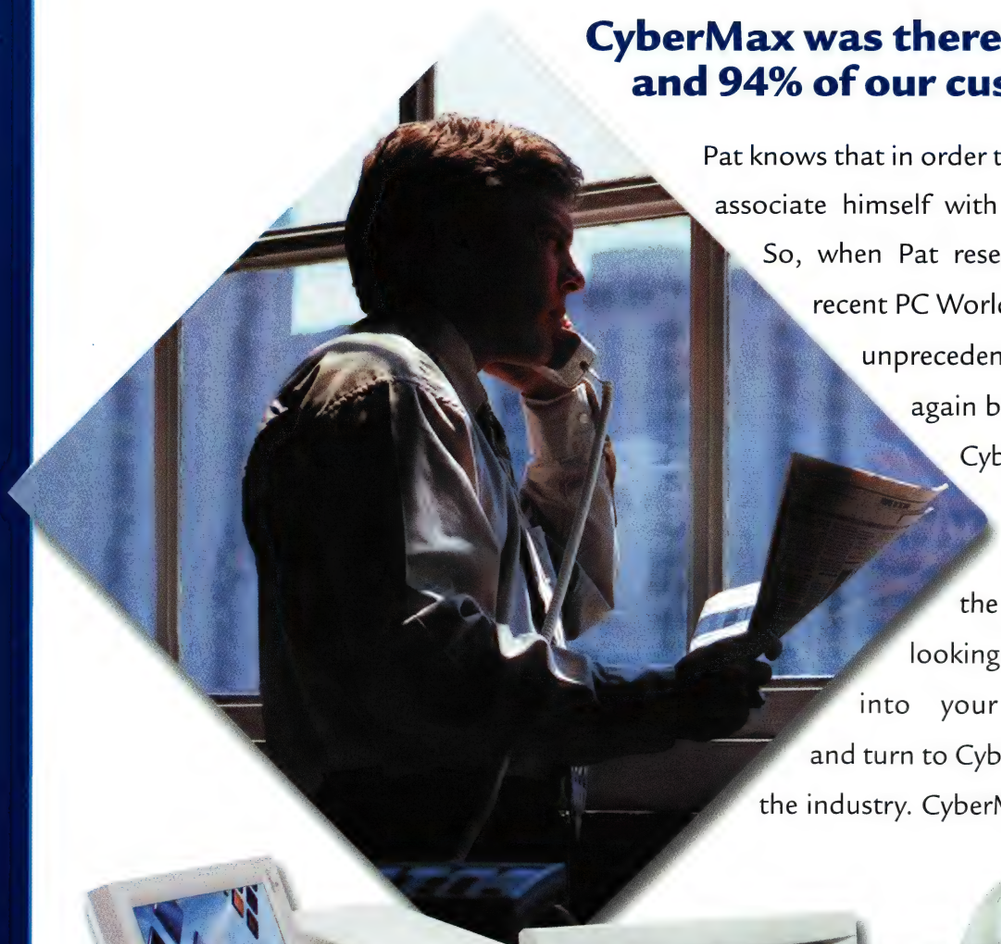
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†Benchmark system configuration: STB Velocity 4400 16MB AGP (driver ver 1.42), WD AC31300 13GB IDE, AMD-K6-III processor based system: Biostar M5ALA mainboard /w 512KB off-chip cache. Pentium III processor based system: Biostar M6TBA mainboard. Windows 98: DirectX 6.1, FAT32, 128MB SDRAM

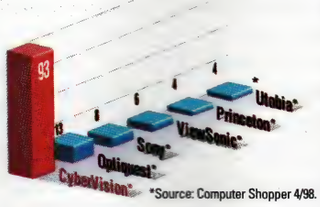
***Megahertz-equivalent performance level. Based upon industry-standard benchmark comparisons to the Pentium® II processor when tested in equivalently configured computer systems. For further information on the performance of Cyrix processors, please visit the Cyrix Web site @ www.cyrix.com.

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*Source: Computer Shopper 4/98.

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MIDWEST MICRO MULTIMEDIA PRO XPH-500

Pay Less for A Pentium III

MidWest Micro's new 500MHz Pentium III system gives you the bleeding edge without bleeding you dry.

BY MITT JONES

beta

If you've been searching for a fully loaded 500MHz Pentium III system at a reasonable price, MidWest Micro may have just the PC for you. The Multimedia Pro XPH-500 offers fast performance and an impressive configuration at a direct price of $2,499, which is a few hundred dollars cheaper than most of its competitors.

The Multimedia Pro uses top-drawer components throughout, starting with its Intel SE440BX-2 motherboard. Our system also came with 128MB of SDRAM on a single DIMM, leaving two slots free. Even the floppy drive will make you smile: MidWest Micro provides a SuperDisk-compatible 3.5-inch drive, so you can use both conventional floppies and 120MB SuperDisks. Other standout features include an IBM Deskstar 16GP (DTTA-351680) 16GB hard drive and a Toshiba 4.8x SD-M1202 DVD-ROM drive.

In keeping with its cutting-edge profile, the Multimedia Pro stays away from ISA cards altogether. Its 56Kbps modem is a 3Com U.S. Robotics V.90 PCI card, and a PCI-based Creative Sound Blaster Live Value sound card expertly handles the sonic chores. This leaves vacant one PCI slot, one ISA slot, and one shared PCI/ISA slot.

Not surprisingly, the system also comes with a very capable AGP graphics card, the ATI Rage Fury. The card, which is based on ATI Technologies' Rage 128 GL graphics chip and furnished with 32MB of RAM, provides 2-D and 3-D acceleration as well as hardware MPEG-2 decoding. In addition, the card is equipped with both composite and S-Video outputs, which let you enhance your gaming or DVD experience by hooking up your PC to a big-screen TV. Then again, the Multimedia Pro's 19-inch Clearmax CM-1926 monitor should prove roomy enough for most applications, with an 18-inch viewing area and a 0.26mm dot pitch.

The included Altec Lansing ADA305 speaker system, meanwhile, uses a USB connection with software control of all speaker settings. The three-piece system also features Dolby Surround sound—thanks in part to a design in which one of the two 3-inch drivers in each satellite is positioned to direct sound off to the side.

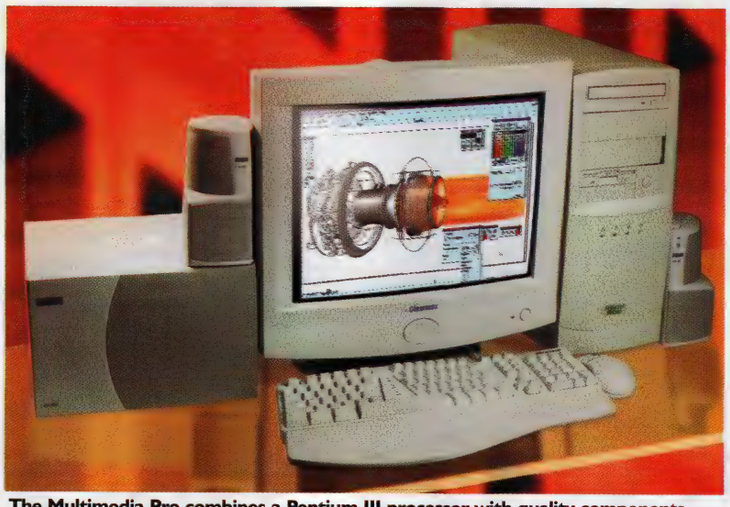
MidWest Micro's new chassis uses a curved top, much like Gateway's midtower chassis, so don't expect to use the top surface of the system to hold much of anything. As with the company's previous design, however, the new chassis is a breeze to open. It provides three accessible 5.25-inch and two 3.5-inch drive bays, though one of each is occupied. Inside, an easily removed bracket contains the system's 3.5-inch hard drive, with room for one more.

Although the Multimedia Pro didn't set any performance records on our benchmark tests, it generally held its own against the six other 500MHz systems we reviewed in our Pentium III roundup. (See "Pentium III: The Next Generation" in this section.) On Business Winstone 99, for instance, it scored 23.1, which is just a hair below the 23.9 average for the six in the feature. And although the system's 5,400-rpm hard drive couldn't quite keep up with the 7,200-rpm drives used by most of the others, the difference in disk speed probably wouldn't be noticeable under most circumstances.

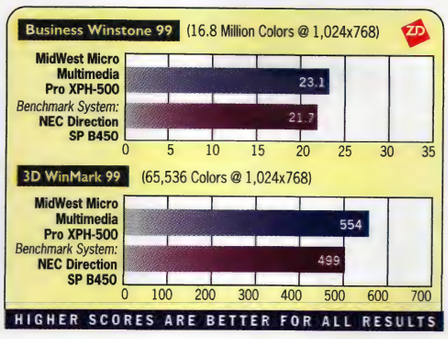
The system's scores on our 3D WinMark 99 test were also slightly below the average of the other six 500MHz systems. Still, one would be hard-pressed to characterize its 3-D performance as anything less than exceptional. The ATI graphics card handled our 3-D tests quite adeptly with impressively high frame rates throughout. As with other Pentium III PCs, the Multimedia Pro's score on our 3D Processing test jumped from 37 to 64 with the installation of DirectX 6.1, which is necessary to enable the Pentium III's Streaming SIMD (single instruction multiple data) Extensions.

Our biggest complaint with our early production unit was a series of rough edges. For example, when we received the system, the CPU module had come loose due to a module retaining post that had come out of the motherboard. Moreover, neither MidWest Micro nor Clearmax makes an INF file available for the CM-1926 monitor—an unfortunate oversight. During testing, the system consistently tried to use a refresh rate of 85Hz, even when we set the resolution to 1,280x1,024 or 1,600x1,200, which resulted in a signal that the monitor couldn't handle. This left us using a 60Hz refresh rate. In theory, at least, an INF file would make it easy to use the highest-supported refresh rate of 75Hz at either resolution.

Nevertheless, MidWest Micro's Multimedia Pro XPH-500 holds its own against the competition in most respects. It may not be the fastest 500MHz system available, but it delivers quality components and solid performance. And it does so at a bargain price. ▼



The Multimedia Pro combines a Pentium III processor with quality components such as a 16.8GB hard drive, an ATI Rage Fury AGP card, and a 19-inch monitor.



COMPANY ..... MidWest Micro
Fletcher, OH; 800-728-8582, 937-368-2309
www.mwmicro.com

SYSTEM ..... MidWest Micro Multimedia Pro XPH-500

AS TESTED ..... 500MHz Intel Pentium III; 128MB SDRAM; 512K L2 cache; Intel SE440BX-2 motherboard; 16.8GB IBM Deskstar 16GP (DTTA-351680) hard drive; Toshiba 4.8x SD-M1202 DVD-ROM drive; Matsushita LKM-F734 SuperDisk-compatible drive; ATI Rage Fury AGP graphics card with 32MB SDRAM; Creative Labs Sound Blaster Live Value PCI sound card; 3Com U.S. Robotics V.90 PCI modem; 19-inch Clearmax CM-1926 monitor; Altec Lansing ADA305 satellite-subwoofer speaker system; Microsoft Natural Keyboard Elite; Microsoft IntelliMouse; Microsoft Windows 98; Microsoft Works Suite 99; Microsoft Gamer's Bundle

SUPPORT ..... Live toll-free phone support, 24 hours daily; 30-day money-back guarantee; three-year parts-and-labor (five years on CPU and system memory) warranty, one-year onsite labor; BBS; e-mail; Web

SUITABILITY ..... A solid choice for discriminating users who demand the latest technology, but not a top-of-the-line price tag

DIRECT PRICE $2,499

beta Preproduction 500MHz Pentium III processor

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MICRO PRO CONSTELLATION 4200

A Deal You Can't Refuse

Micro Pro introduces a heavenly 450MHz Pentium II system at a remarkable down-to-earth price.

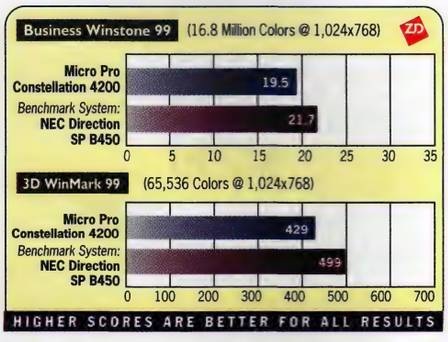
BY BILL O'BRIEN

Those whooshing sounds you just heard were the plunging prices of yesterday's high-end systems following the Pentium III's arrival. Clearly, the cost of high performance has never been lower. But if you're still looking for proof, you need only look as far as the Constellation 4200 from Micro Pro.

With a direct price of $1,899, the Constellation may not seem like much of a bargain compared to a $1,000 entry-level system. But in fact it's nothing short of a steal with 128MB of memory, a 450MHz Pentium II processor, a 10GB hard drive, a 4.8x DVD-ROM drive, and a 19-inch monitor.

Micro Pro also includes and preinstalls Lotus Millennium SmartSuite, as well as Compton's 99 Encyclopedia and a copy of 3D Atlas. You will need to buy your DVD movies, though that applies to the majority of new PC systems.

A more important consideration for most users is that when it's time to put away the spreadsheets and memorandums, you can pop in the latest DVD title and plaster a movie across the 18-inch viewing area of the 19-inch monitor. Micro Pro uses Zoran's SoftDVD MPEG decoding software in conjunction with the Riva TNT-based Diamond Viper 550 AGP graphics card and the Toshiba SD-M1202 DVD-ROM drive. Ad hoc testing with a few of our favorite DVD movies found the audio- and video-playback quality to be top-notch.



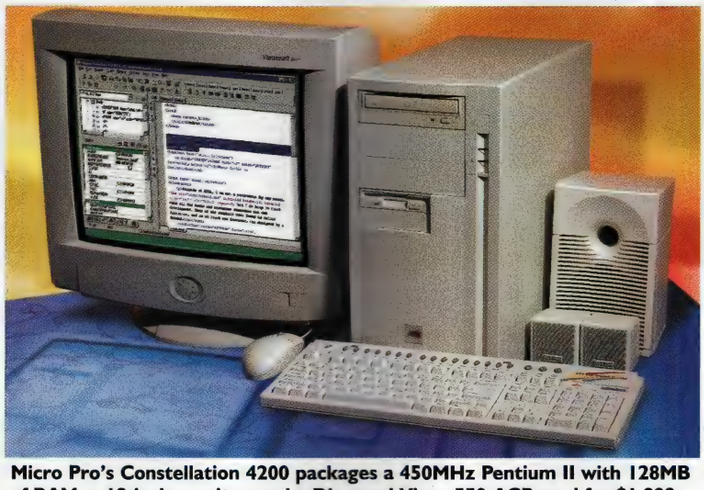
Moreover, according to our WinBench 99 test suite, the Viper does a great job handling 2-D and 3-D graphics, as well as MPEG-1 video clips. So if you're not in the mood to take in a movie, you could just as easily load up Half-Life, Unreal, or any number of games optimized for 3-D.

Of course, the home-theater experience isn't really complete without a capable audio system. The Constellation actually goes way beyond being merely capable with Creative Labs' Sound Blaster Live Value PCI sound card and Cambridge SoundWorks' PCWorks FourPointSurround speaker system, which consists of four small satellites and a subwoofer for four-channel digital surround sound.

Much to our surprise, Micro Pro changed the Constellation's memory configuration from 64MB to 128MB just as we were going to press. As a result, our review system was tested with only 64MB installed. But the extra 64MB should be sufficient to bridge the small gap between the Constellation's Business Winstone 99 score of 19.5 and the 21.7 result posted by our 450MHz Pentium II-based reference system. Even without the additional memory, the Constellation's other WinBench scores all support its sterling overall performance.

Rather than struggle to fit both the computer and the monitor on your desktop, we suggest sliding the Constellation's 16x8.5x17.5-inch (HWD) midtower enclosure under your desk. Inside the case, you'll find a SuperMicro P6SBA motherboard with a BX chip set and AMI BIOS. In its tested configuration, one of the three DIMM sockets was filled—although it was unclear whether MPI would be using a single 128MB module or an additional 64MB DIMM to ramp up the memory capacity. In either case, you'll need to fight your way through some cables and wires to reach the DIMMs.

You should have no problem accessing the vacant two ISA and two PCI slots, however, and the cabling doesn't extend down far enough to obstruct the vacant internal drive bay at the front of the chassis. (There are also three empty drive bays on the outside.)



Micro Pro's Constellation 4200 packages a 450MHz Pentium II with 128MB of RAM, a 19-inch monitor, and a Diamond Viper 550 AGP card for $1,899.

COMPANY ..... Micro Pro
Cleveland, OH; 800-353-3003, 216-661-7218
www.mpipc.com

SYSTEM ..... Micro Pro Constellation 4200

AS TESTED ..... 450MHz Pentium II; 512K cache; 64MB SDRAM (128MB in final sales configuration); SuperMicro P6SBA motherboard; 10GB Western Digital AC310100 hard drive; Diamond Viper 550 AGP graphics card with 16MB SDRAM; 4.8x Toshiba SD-M1202 DVD-ROM drive; Creative Labs Sound Blaster Live Value PCI sound card; Cambridge SoundWorks PCWorks FourPointSurround speaker system; 19-inch Hansol Technologies Viewcraft 900P monitor; 56Kbps V.90 PCI modem with K56flex fallback; 16x8.5x17.5-inch (HWD) midtower case; 235-watt AGI power supply; Windows 98; Lotus Millennium SmartSuite; additional software

SUPPORT ..... Live toll-free phone support, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sat., noon to 5 p.m. Sun. (ET); three-year parts-and-labor warranty (first year onsite, parts shipping thereafter); two-year extended onsite warranty, additional $99; 30-day money-back guarantee (no restocking fee); Web; e-mail

SUITABILITY ..... A solid choice as a home or home-office system at an amazing price

DIRECT PRICE $1,899

FOR UPDATED PRICES, SEE WWW.CSPRICES.COM

With the industry moving toward a 12-hour/seven-day support schedule, Micro Pro's toll-free phone support calling times may still seem slightly wanting. Even so, if the company's 12 hours per day on weekdays, seven hours on Saturdays, and five hours on Sundays isn't quite all of the time, it is most of the time. Micro Pro's Web site is primarily a sales tool with a rudimentary FAQ section but no driver upgrade library (although there is an e-mail link to customer support).

Micro Pro offers a three-year parts-and-labor warranty on the Constellation. The first year is handled onsite through BancTec. Parts shipping covers the balance of the warranty, and Micro Pro claims a 48-hour turnaround, paying shipping both ways for warranty replacements. Alternately, a two-year onsite extension is available at a very competitive $99. It can be purchased at any time within the first 12 months.

Computer Shopper Best Buy APRIL 1999

For less than $1,900, the **Micro Pro Constellation 4200** gives you everything you'd ever want in a 450MHz Pentium II system.

The Constellation's weak spot appears to be Micro Pro's customer-support structure. But even then, that's only when compared to the best service available. The system itself is built from proven components, provides dependable, accurate performance, and should be a welcome addition to any home office. ▼

SECTION CONTINUES ON PAGE 182



PROSIGNIA NOTEBOOK 122	PROSIGNIA NOTEBOOK 144	PROSIGNIA NOTEBOOK 162	PROSIGNIA DESKTOP 310
Mobile Intel® Pentium® II Processor 266 MHz	Mobile Intel Pentium II Processor 333 MHz	Mobile Intel Pentium II Processor 366 MHz	Intel® Celeron™ Processor 366 MHz
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24X Max CD-ROM[2]	24X Max CD-ROM[2]	24X Max CD-ROM[2]	40X Max CD-ROM[2]
Integrated K56flex Modem[3]	Compaq V.90 Data/Fax Modem[6]	Compaq V.90 Data/Fax Modem[6]	Compaq 56K V.90 PCI Modem[6]
Compaq PremierSound	Compaq PremierSound	Compaq PremierSound	Creative Labs SBS50 Speakers
Integrated AC Adapter; 1 Li-Ion Battery	Integrated AC Adapter; 1 Li-Ion Battery	Integrated AC Adapter; 2 Li-Ion Batteries	STB/nVIDIA TNTv, 3D AGP 16 MB
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Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition	Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition	Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition	Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition
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Compaq Workstation Case: $59	Compaq Value Case: $49	Compaq Global Case: $89	Iomega® Zip Drive: $99

intel inside pentium® II

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Intel Pentium II Processor 400 MHz	Intel Pentium II Processor 450 MHz	Intel Pentium II Processor 400 MHz
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64 MB (expandable to 384 MB)	128 MB (expandable to 384 MB)	64 MB SDRAM (expandable to 1 GB)[7]
Compaq S700 17" Monitor (15.7" viewable)	Compaq S700 17" Monitor (15.7" viewable)	4.3 GB SCSI Hard Drive[1]
40X Max CD-ROM[2]	DVD-ROM G3	Max Internal Storage of 54.6 GB[7]
Compaq 56K V.90 PCI Modem[6]	Compaq 56K V.90 PCI Modem[6]	8 Bays: 4 Removable, 4 Hard Drive
Creative Labs SBS50 Speakers	Creative Labs SBS50 Speakers	32X Max CD-ROM[2]
STB/nVIDIA TNTv, 3D AGP 16 MB	Matrox Millennium G200 AGP	10/100 TX UTP NIC
Microsoft Windows98	Microsoft Windows98	Compaq V55 15" Monitor (13.7" viewable)
Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition	Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition	Server Management Software
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Upgrade to Altec Lansing ACS44 Speakers: $50	Upgrade to Altec Lansing ACS44 Speakers: $50	Add 64 MB Memory: $219
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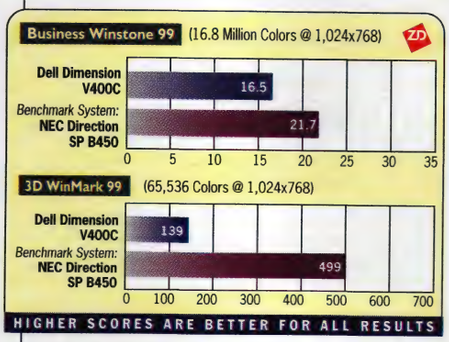
Dell puts Intel's new 400MHz Celeron CPU to work in a home-office system that means business.

BY BILL O'BRIEN

From its inauspicious start as a low-end processor for entry-level systems, Intel Corp.'s Celeron CPU has undergone some major performance upgrades over the last six months. The two latest Celeron processors clock in at 366MHz and 400MHz; both receive a big boost from the added 128K of L2 cache.

Dell Computer Corp. has selected the 400MHz Celeron as the heart of its Dimension V400C. Although this $1,652-direct PC still doesn't match the brute force of a 450MHz Pentium II-based system, it is certainly no slowpoke. Complementing the CPU are 64MB of SDRAM, a 12GB hard drive, a 4.8x DVD-ROM drive with software MPEG-2 decoding, and a 17-inch monitor.

Set up the V400C in your home office, and you'll have a very competent business tool. Not only does the system ship with Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition, but according to our benchmarks, it has an overall business performance potential that's only 24 percent below that of our 450MHz Pentium II-based reference system. In fact, the V400C's only real shortcoming in this environment is the sluggish 2-D graphics performance of its ATI Rage Pro II graphics accelerator with 8MB of memory.



As is the case with the system's Yamaha XG 64V audio electronics, the ATI chip set is integrated onto the system's Intel Seattle motherboard. Although integrated components aren't always the best way to go, it really makes little difference with regard to audio; most PC sound chores only use a sound card's amplifier section. Graphics acceleration, on the other hand, is a far more volatile segment of the market and has a much greater impact on overall system performance. This is worth noting because the V400C's score of 81 on Business Graphics WinMark 99 was 54 percent lower than the 176 result posted by our reference system, which uses a Riva TNT-based card.

With a 139 score on our 3D WinMark 99 test at 1,024x768 and 65K colors, the V400C's 3-D performance is equally unspectacular. Although the integrated graphics components are designed to take advantage of the AGP bus, the system lacks an AGP slot. Thus, any graphics upgrade would require you to install a PCI-based card, which eliminates any assistance from the AGP bus for large 3-D textures. (If you plan to use the V400C for gaming, we'd recommend adding a dedicated 3-D accelerator card to work in conjunction with the current graphics setup.)

At the end of the workday, the V400C lets you kick back and take in a movie, courtesy of its 4.8x Toshiba SD-M1202 DVD-ROM drive and Quadrant MPEG-2 decoder software. The 17-inch Dell 1000HS monitor has a 16-inch viewing area, which is excellent for most applications but somewhat cramped for serious home-theater usage. Likewise, the Harman Kardon HK-195 stereo speaker system delivers clean, crisp audio, although it could use an assist from a subwoofer.



The Dimension V400C proves the 400MHz Celeron processor is no slouch, but the system's integrated ATI graphics chip set slows things down a bit.

Two enclosures are available for the system: the 17x8x17.5-inch (HWD) tower included with our review unit or a slightly smaller desktop case. The tower has a total of five externally accessible drive bays, three of which are vacant. There's also a vacant internal bay, and the hard drive is mounted vertically against the chassis at the front of the case.

Removing the system's single thumbscrew and pinching the release tabs allow the side panel to slide free, revealing the Seattle motherboard inside. The shared slot is occupied by the V.90 modem, leaving one ISA and two PCI slots available for additional expansion cards. One of the board's three DIMM sockets is used for the system's 64MB of memory, and everything in the interior is easily accessible.

Dell's manuals are among the best you'll find. But should you encounter a problem that's not addressed by the system's documentation, you can call customer support toll-free at any time. Additional driver and software updates are available though Dell's Web site.

The V400C carries a standard three-year parts-and-labor warranty with one year of onsite service. Extending the onsite coverage to three years costs an additional $99. You can even extend your onsite policy to four or five years—though it will cost you an additional $99 per year.

The Dimension V400C proves the Celeron isn't the low-end processor it was initially believed to be, but the system itself is a bit on the pricey side given its slow graphics performance, minimal system RAM, and the absences of an AGP slot and a subwoofer. (At the time this review was written, however, the V400C was comparably priced to similarly configured systems from Gateway and Micron.) We wouldn't pass on this system if that was as far as our budget would carry us—especially when you consider Dell's outstanding tech support and quality control. But for users willing to spend a few hundred dollars more, there are better deals to be had. ▼

COMPANY ..... Dell Computer Corp.
Round Rock, TX; 800-388-8542, 512-338-4400
www.dell.com

SYSTEM ..... Dell Dimension V400C

AS TESTED ..... 400MHz Intel Celeron; 64MB SDRAM; 128K L2 cache; Intel Seattle motherboard; Intel 440BX chip set; 200-watt power supply; 12GB IBM 351290 hard drive; 4.8x Toshiba SD-M1202 DVD-ROM drive with Quadrant MPEG-2 decoder software; integrated ATI Rage Pro II graphics accelerator chip set with 8MB DRAM; Dell 1000HS 17-inch monitor; integrated Yamaha XG 64V sound electronics; Harman Kardon HK-195 stereo speakers; 3Com U.S. Robotics V.90 Winmodem; Logitech MouseMan; Windows 98; Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition; additional software

SUPPORT ..... Live toll-free phone support, 24 hours daily; 30-day money-back guarantee; one year onsite labor; three-year parts-and-labor warranty; extended onsite warranties for three, four, or five years cost $99, $198, or $297, respectively (extended parts-only warranty through fourth year, $69; fifth year, $99); e-mail; Web

SUITABILITY ..... A good choice for use in a home-office environment, but limited graphics performance curbs its gaming capabilities.

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ZENON 3D DREAMMEDIA PRO

What Dreams Are Made Of

Zenon builds an enthusiast's dream system on the new 500MHz Intel Pentium III processor.

BY DANIEL A. BEGUN

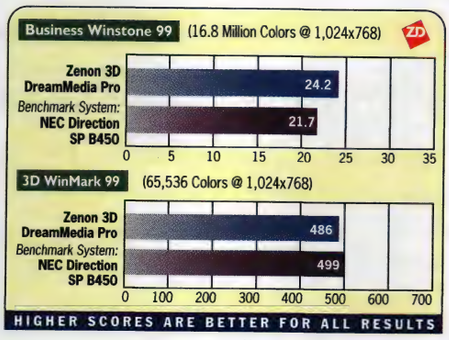
COMPANY ..... Zenon Computer Systems
City of Industry, CA; 800-899-6119, 626-935-1860
www.zenontech.com
SYSTEM ..... Zenon 3D DreamMedia Pro
AS TESTED ..... 500MHz Pentium III; 128MB 100MHz SDRAM; Lucky Star 6ABX2V motherboard; Intel 440BX chip set; 512K pipeline-burst L2 cache; 14.4GB IBM Deskstar 14GXP DTTA-371440 ATA-4 hard drive; 4x Hitachi GD-2500 ATAPI DVD-ROM drive; STB Velocity 4400 AGP graphics card with 16MB SDRAM; STB Cinemaster 98 Software DVD decoder; 19-inch CyberVision C92 monitor; Ensoniq AudioPCI sound card; Altec Lansing ACS45.1 satellite-subwoofer speaker system; Multiwave 56K PCI LT data/fax/voice modem; 235-watt power supply; microphone; Windows 98; additional software
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SUITABILITY ..... Clearly intended for hard-core PC enthusiasts
DIRECT PRICE $2,500

beta Preproduction 500MHz Pentium III processor

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beta The introduction of Intel Corp.'s new 500MHz Pentium III processor signals yet another milestone in computing power. One of the first systems to include this speedy processor is Zenon Computer Systems' $2,500-direct 3D DreamMedia Pro.

As measured by Ziff-Davis' CPUmark$_{32}$ test, the DreamMedia's 500MHz Pentium III processor represents a 17 percent boost in raw CPU power over the average 450MHz Pentium II-based system. Similarly, its Business Graphics WinMark 99 score of 188 and Business Disk WinMark 99 score of 3,600 represent respective 18 and 25 percent increases over typical scores for 450MHz Pentium II systems. But the faster graphics and disk subsystem scores can't be chalked up to the faster CPU alone; the system's STB Velocity 4400 graphics card and 14.4GB IBM Deskstar 14GXP hard drive are among the fastest components in their categories as well. Interestingly, all of these factors do not translate to a huge increase in application performance: The DreamMedia's Business Winstone 99 score of 24.2 is only 5 percent higher than the average for 450MHz Pentium II systems.



The "3D" in the system's name is certainly justified, though, as the DreamMedia's 3D WinMark 99 score of 726 at 800x600 and 65K colors is among the highest we've seen to date. Anecdotal testing with two Direct3D games, G-Police and Incoming, lived up to our expectations with excellent-looking 3-D graphics and impressive frame rates.

The computer's display subsystem consists of the STB graphics card and a 19-inch CyberVision C92 monitor. The monitor features an 18-inch viewable area and uses a flat-square tube with a 0.26mm dot pitch. The system can display a maximum resolution of 1,600x1,200 at 32-bit color and 60Hz. The monitor looks best when set at 1,024x768, but we noticed a slight soft focus in the corners at all resolutions.

The system's Ensoniq AudioPCI sound card and Altec Lansing ACS45.1 three-piece speaker system produced very acceptable audio output. Although the card's software-emulated wavetable synthesis is fine for most users, purists may want to upgrade to a hardware solution, such as a Creative Labs Sound Blaster AWE64 Value, which costs an additional $20.

A 4x Hitachi GD-2500 DVD-ROM drive, working in conjunction with the STB Cinemaster 98 Software does a fine job handling the DreamMedia's DVD movie playback. This combination proved so effective, in fact, that we found the picture quality to rival that of some systems with MPEG-2 decoding hardware.

The DreamMedia comes in a 16x8.3x16.8-inch (HWD) midtower case with PS/2, serial, and two USB ports, and one ECP/EPP parallel port. The case's side panel easily slides off after you remove two screws. The inside is well-laid-out, with all components easily accessible. One of the system's three DIMM slots is populated with a 128MB SDRAM module. (Up to 384MB can be accommodated.) Two PCI slots, one ISA slot, and one shared PCI/ISA slot remain vacant, as do one 3.5-inch and two accessible 5.25-inch drive bays.



The 3D DreamMedia Pro is a Pentium III powerhouse, replete with 128MB of RAM, a 14.4GB hard drive, a 19-inch monitor, and a 4x Hitachi DVD drive.

Our evaluation system did have a few rough spots, however. When we first set up the computer, the DVD-ROM drive, sound card, and modem would not work at all. Upon opening the case, we saw that the DVD drive's power cable wasn't attached to the drive. We attached the cable and also reseated the sound card and the modem. This fixed everything but the sound-card problem, which was eventually corrected by moving the board to a different PCI slot. A week later, the system suddenly wouldn't boot into Windows. Working with a Zenon technician over the phone, we narrowed down the problem to an IRQ conflict. Although we were able to get the system running again, the system continually locked up on reboots. According to Zenon, this is due to a known conflict with the current BIOS and the Pentium III processor. The company expects to have an updated BIOS in place by the time you read this.

Zenon's toll-free technical support hours are limited to 66 hours per week. We called a number of times over a two-day period; each time, we only got as far as voice mail. A Zenon spokesman explained to us that we were calling at a busy time of year (it was around New Year's) and that most calls are returned within 24 hours. The system comes with a one-year parts-and-labor warranty, which can be extended to four years of onsite service for $294.

The difficulties we encountered were most likely the result of preproduction glitches. You should expect a much less contentious experience than ours. That caveat aside, enthusiasts and gamers looking to get their hands on a fast Pentium III-based system with great DVD and 3-D performance will find the answer to their dreams in the DreamMedia. ▼

HOW TO BUY DESKTOPS

Here are some pointers to help you highlight what's most critical and to keep things in perspective as you compare system configurations. We cover hardware components and peripherals like hard drives and graphics cards in the Hardware How to Buy section.

Performance Central: CPU, Cache, System Bus

At the core of your desktop lies its CPU. Intel Corp. and its competitors (including AMD, Centaur Technology, Cyrix Corp., and Rise Technology) are all releasing multiple processor entries in the race for your desktop dollar. The result is a mass of CPU choices that will fluctuate and change dramatically over the course of this year. Processor clock speeds and caches may come and go, but there are some fundamentals you can keep track of to help you navigate this changing terrain.

PROCESSOR SPEED

A system's CPU retrieves, decodes, and executes instructions, and transfers this information to and from other system components, like memory, over the system bus. The chip's clock speed is an indication of how quickly it can perform these tasks. However, processor speed is not a singular indication of system performance. Other variables besides the CPU, like the cache and the system bus, also play vital roles.

CACHE

A CPU cache is a look-ahead memory bank that acts as an intermediary between system memory and the processor. It's faster than the RAM and therefore allows instructions to be executed and data to be read more quickly than if the processor drew all its information directly from the system memory. The larger the cache, the greater the performance boost, because there is a better chance that the information required next is already cached.

> **L1 Cache:** Also known as level-one or internal cache, L1 cache is a small amount of fast memory that's hard-wired into the processor. Every processor has a fixed amount—it's not something you can upgrade. So be sure you know up front how much cache your PC's processor will come with. More is generally better, but there are other factors that contribute to overall system speed.

> **L2 Cache:** Also known as level-two or external cache, L2 cache traditionally resides outside the processor, either on the motherboard or—in the case of Intel's cartridge-based processors—within the cartridge.

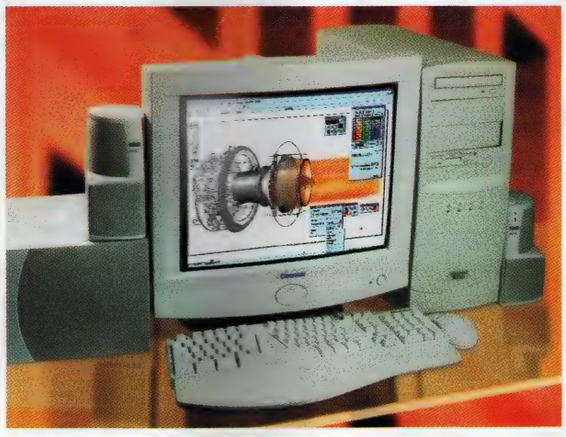
Like L1 cache, the amount of L2 cache is often predetermined; only when it's located on the motherboard is there the potential to vary the amount. For instance, the amount of L2 cache you get with AMD's K6-2 depends on the motherboard. Most have 512K, but some configurations give you a full megabyte. Be sure to ask how much you're getting.

Note that AMD's K6-III family sports what the company calls a trilevel cache architecture: The 64K of L1 and the 256K of L2 reside on the processor die and run at the speed of the CPU. The "L3" cache resides on the motherboard.

Generally more important than the amount of L2 cache, or in the case of the K6-III, L3 cache, is the speed at which data is shuttled back and forth. This is determined by the speed of the system bus. (More on that in a moment.)

INSTRUCTION SETS

Another differentiator when it comes to CPUs, instruction sets are built-in instructions that make a given processor well-suited to certain kinds of tasks or applications.



Specialized instruction sets are nothing new, but they first made it into the public lexicon when Intel aggressively marketed its MMX instruction set for the multimedia-ready Pentium line.

At a minimum, you should expect MMX (57 instructions for accelerating graphics, audio, and video) or an equivalent instruction set in any processor you invest in today, Intel or otherwise. AMD's K6-2 and K6-III lines have their own MMX-like set of instructions called 3DNow to turbocharge 3-D graphics and other multimedia applications.

The next step: Intel's Pentium III adds 70 new multimedia instructions (Streaming SIMD Extensions) to the fray, designed to speed up 3-D graphics, audio processing, videoconferencing, and other multimedia chores.

Note that to benefit from a processor's instruction sets, you must use software that's written to take advantage of them.

SYSTEM BUS

Regardless of the speed of the processor itself, its communication with other system components (the RAM, the graphics card, and so on) is limited by the system bus. For years, it clocked in at 60MHz or 66MHz, but the latest and greatest Pentium and K6-2 machines bump the bus to 100MHz. Watch for an updated version of the Pentium III to further boost bus speed to 133MHz before summer's end. AMD's soon-to-be-released K7, meanwhile, promises a 200MHz system bus, which should banish bus bottlenecks for good.

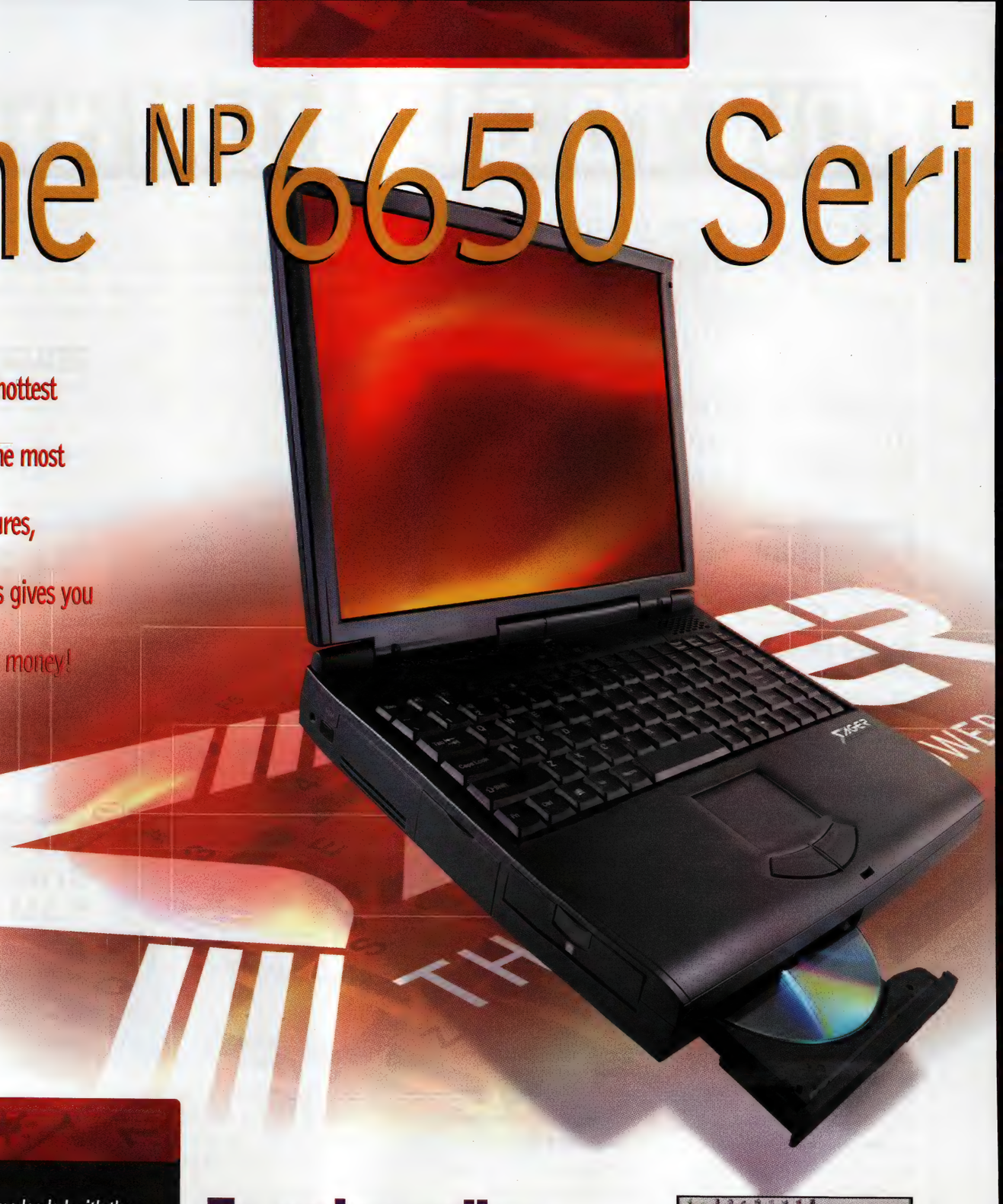
You Must Remember This: RAM Rules

System RAM holds the instructions and data that are being shuttled between components like the CPU and the hard drive for processing. The less RAM you have, the more often your PC must access the hard drive, a significantly slower component. More RAM means a greater capacity to run software programs simultaneously, with fewer time-consuming hits on the hard drive. Most of what you'll find in current systems is Synchronous DRAM (SDRAM). Any machine with a 100MHz system bus should have 100MHz SDRAM to maximize performance potential.

As for the amount, buy as much as you can afford. Get at least 64MB—128MB if you plan to run high-end applications or several applications at once. Regardless of how much you get up front, make sure any system you buy has at least one or two memory sockets open, so you can add more memory later without having to replace legacy modules. ▼

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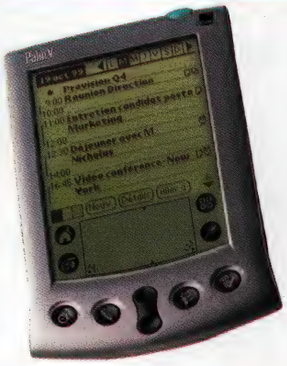
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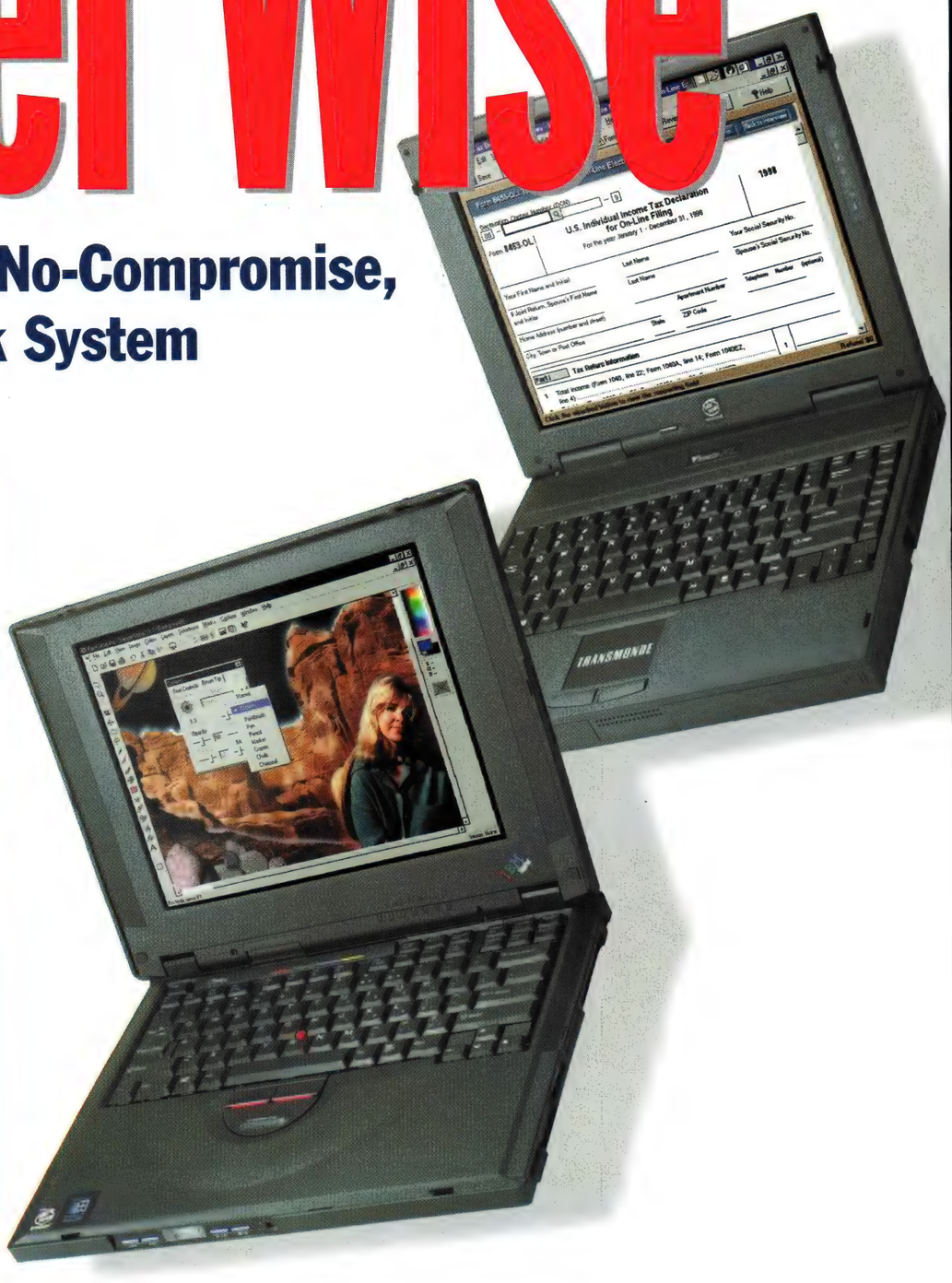
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- Integrated 16-Bit Sound & Stereo Speakers
- V.90 56K[1] Modem
- Casual Case
- EZ Pad® Pointing Device
- Starting Weight: 7.1 lbs.[2]
- Microsoft® Windows® 98 & MS® Home Essentials® Software
- LapLink® V.7.5 for Windows 98 & McAfee® VirusScan
- Gateway Gold℠ Service[3]

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- 12.1" SVGA TFT Color Display
- Intel® Pentium® II Processor 333MHz
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- Integrated DVD-II Drive
- Integrated V.90 Modem
- External 3.5" Diskette Drive
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- Lithium Ion Battery & AC Pack
- USB Port, CardBus & Zoomed Video Support
- Integrated 16-Bit Sound & Stereo Speakers
- Leather Portfolio Carrying Case
- EZ Point® Pointing Stick
- Full-Size Keyboard
- Starting Weight: 5 lbs.[2]
- MS Windows 98
- MS Office 97, Small Business Edition plus Bookshelf® 98 & FREE Office 2000 Upgrade Offer[5]
- LapLink V.7.5 for Windows 98 & McAfee VirusScan
- Gateway Gold Service[3]

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- 2.5MB 256-Bit Graphics Accelerator
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- 4GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive with EZ S.M.A.R.T. Monitoring Protection Service
- Lithium Ion Battery with Battery Gauge & AC Pack
- Two USB Ports, CardBus & Zoomed Video Support
- NTSC/PAL Video Output
- Integrated 16-Bit Sound & Stereo Speakers
- V.90 56K[1] Modem
- Casual Case
- EZ Pad Pointing Device
- Starting Weight: 6.75 lbs.[2]
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- Lithium Ion Battery & AC Pack
- Two USB Ports, CardBus & Zoomed Video Support
- NTSC/PAL Video Input & Output
- 16-Bit Wavetable Sound & Altec Lansing® Speakers
- V.90 56K[1] Modem
- Deluxe Leather Case
- EZ Pad Pointing Device
- Starting Weight: 8.6 lbs.[2]
- MS Windows 98
- MS Office 97, Small Business Edition plus Bookshelf 98 & FREE Office 2000 Upgrade Offer[5]
- LapLink V.7.5 for Windows 98 & McAfee VirusScan
- Gateway Gold Service[3]

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TRENDS

A Colorful Cast Of CE Characters

Palm-size PC vendors are set to brighten the world of mobile computing with new full-color displays.

Like handheld PCs before them, Palm-size PCs will begin to shed their anemic green LCDs this year and add some color to the world of pocket computing. In fact, a few Windows CE manufacturers have already announced plans to outfit their Palm-size units with color displays by the second quarter, and more vendors are likely to follow suit.

These color-enhanced devices will target business professionals seeking the latest in technology. The upcoming **Nino 500** from **Philips Mobile Computing Group** will appeal to itinerant infonauts "because color adds to the features of the applications these people are using," says Mariel van Tatenhove, senior product manager for the Nino line. "Color adds to the visibility—you saw it first in notebooks."

Likewise, **Hewlett-Packard Co.** has launched its new **HP Jornada 420.** Although HP has supported the handheld PC form factor since the first release of Windows CE, the vendor has now decided to play in the Palm-size PC space in an effort to offer a complete family of mobile products for business pros.

"With the larger, typeable HPCs and now the smaller Palm-size PCs, we have completed our family," says Alex Cho, HP's handheld PC product manager for North America. Like Philips, HP believes color will bring portable devices to life. "Everything is better in color; the ability to communicate increases with color," Cho says. The Jornada 420 is currently available and has an estimated price of $519.

Though not everyone needs the full capabilities of a Jornada, they still may want the core conveniences offered by PDAs. Realizing this, vendors are beginning to offer Palm-size units for consumers who want the functionality of a PDA without the premium prices. Philips has addressed this market with its **Nino 200,** which has an estimated price of $299. The Nino 200 will come with Pocket Outlook, Note Taker, Voice Recorder, and Channel Browser, but will lack any of the extras Philips includes with the **Nino 300,** such as Tegic's T9 graphical keyboard, smARTwriter handwriting recognition, Pocket Commander, Expense Manager, and modem support. **Royal Computer** has also joined the PDA craze with its device called the **DaVinci,** which sells at retail for $99. The DaVinci is a Palm-size PDA that comes with a backlight screen, a note-taking application, a daily planner, a to-do list, a phone list, and a calculator.



ACTIVE LINKS

www.audible.com/audibleready ..... *AudiblePlayer for Windows CE*
www.hpcpage.com ..... *HPCPage.com*
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Looking a bit further into the future of CE devices, Internet audio and hardware provider **Audible** says its **AudiblePlayer** will be a core application for upcoming Windows CE Palm-size PCs. Palm-size PC users will be able to download the software player free from Audible's site (*www.audible.com/audibleready*) and use the ear jacks in their Palm-size PCs to listen to downloaded audio. CE users must first download the software player and the audio files to their primary PCs, and then download the player and the audio to their Palm-size PCs. The list of titles available on the site includes daily versions of *The Wall Street Journal, The Economist, Harvard Management Update,* and a variety of books. Pricing for the audio files will be on a monthly subscription basis or a per-file fee.

HOME WANTED

When the **Intel 300MHz MMX Pentium** processor was first released late last year, notebook manufacturers were not exactly lining up to use the part. And for a very good reason: Most vendors were holding out for the arrival of the low-cost **Celeron** processor, which would achieve higher performance levels than the Pentium processor.

Since then, the 300MHz MMX Pentium has found a home in ultraportables such as the **Sony Vaio 505TX** and the **Toshiba Portégé 3020CT.** But once manufacturers redesign their units to accommodate the recently announced **Pentium II** processors with on-die cache, the 300MHz MMX processor may face eviction.

"The focus going forward is really Pentium II and Celeron; Celeron for the low end and PII for a wider range of designs," says Randy Giusto, an analyst at **International Data Corp. (IDC),** a market-research firm. "And IDC believes that [the latest Pentium II processor] will find its way into thinner designs such as ultraportables over the near term."

Where will the Pentium part go? Home, most likely: **IBM Corp.** is using the processor in its **ThinkPad i Series** notebooks that target small-office and home consumers. ***—Richard S. Shim***

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NEWSBITS

FUN FOR THE CE SET

Designed with productivity in mind, Windows CE devices have been long on productivity apps, but short on entertainment. Until now, that is. **Hasbro Interactive** has launched games for the Windows CE platform. The gaming giant has already released **Monopoly** and **Scrabble,** and plans to launch **Trivial Pursuit** and **Slingo** later in the year. The games will sell for approximately $30 each.



PENTIUM III TO GO MOBILE

During the second quarter of 1999, **Intel Corp.** plans to release a mobile version of its **Pentium III** processor based on a 0.18-micron process. Speeds are expected to reach up to 600MHz on the high end and will include processor serial numbers, which will be used with applications to identify a system, a processor, and a user. The target applications for the serial numbers are to aid in network and online security, as well as in system and information management. ▼

PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRIS GOULD

Penny-Wise PORTABLES

THE MARKET'S TEEMING WITH BIG VALUES IN SMALL PACKAGES.

BY DAVID ENGLISH

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Compared to desktops, notebooks have traditionally offered less power at a higher cost. This is changing, however—the majority now have a 300MHz or faster processor combined with a 4GB or larger hard drive. In fact, the processor gap between desktops and notebooks is set to disappear completely by year's end, when Intel Corp. is expected to introduce a 600MHz processor for both. Prices are shrinking, too. Entry-level notebooks have dropped about $500 (from roughly $1,500 to $1,000) over the past year, and high-end models have fallen about $1,500 (from roughly $6,000 to $4,500).

What does this mean for consumers? You can find big values in notebooks selling for $1,000 to $2,200 right now. This guide (and its accompanying product chart in this issue's Reference section) will help you determine exactly what you need in a mobile PC.

How Low Can You Go? Most notebook purchases, above all, involve weighing price and performance. Ideally, you'll pay as little as possible for the capabilities you need without having to compromise on anything critical to you. We've done some comparison shopping to determine which features you can expect at today's lower price points. We started at what was only recently the bargain basement for desktops: under $1,000.





Clockwise from top: Alcam's Executive 700 Slimline contains a modular bay, AGP, and a lithium-ion battery; Gateway's Solo 2500 is based on a Pentium II PE CPU; and the Quantex T-1410 has a 14.1-inch TFT display.



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- 24X CD-ROM drive° (dedicated bay)
- 4MB AGP graphics
- 3.5" floppy drive (dedicated bay)
- Microsoft® Windows® 98
- Free Office 2000 Upgrade*
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The world is a book, and those who do not travel, read only a page.
—William Goins, III

"First things first: we've got to acknowledge the fastest Pentium-class notebook that we have ever tested - TransPort TREK².."

—*CNET*, January '99









366MHz Power Special

Model Name	TREK² 300	TREK² 300	New! TREK² 333	New! TREK² 366
Processor	Intel® Celeron™ processor 300MHz	Intel Pentium II processor 300PE MHz	Intel Pentium II processor 333MHz	Intel Pentium II processor 366MHz
Cache	128KB L2 pipeline burst cache	256KB L2 pipeline burst cache	256KB L2 pipeline burst cache	256KB L2 pipeline burst cache
RAM	32MB EDO DRAM	64MB SDRAM	64MB SDRAM	128MB SDRAM
Hard Drive	4GB hard drive (removable)⌖	6GB hard drive (removable)⌖	6GB hard drive (removable)⌖	10GB hard drive (removable)⌖
Monitor	12.1" SVGA TFT display	13.3" XGA TFT display	14.1" XGA TFT display	14.1" XGA TFT display
Extra Storage	3.5" floppy disk drive (dedicated bay)	3.5" floppy disk drive (dedicated bay)	3.5" floppy disk drive (dedicated bay)	3.5" floppy disk drive (dedicated bay)
CD-ROM	24X CD-ROM drive° (dedicated bay)	24X CD-ROM drive° (dedicated bay)	24X CD-ROM drive° (dedicated bay)	24X CD-ROM drive° (dedicated bay)
Graphics	4MB AGP graphics accelerator	4MB AGP graphics accelerator	4MB AGP graphics accelerator	4MB AGP graphics accelerator
Sound System	Built-in stereo speakers & microphone	Built-in stereo speakers & microphone	Built-in stereo speakers & microphone	Built-in stereo speakers & microphone
Warranty	5-year/1-year Micron limited warranty	5-year/1-year Micron limited warranty	5-year/1-year Micron limited warranty	5-year/1-year Micron limited warranty
Software Included	Microsoft® Windows® 98 System Wizard Mobile Client†††† Norton AntiVirus	Microsoft Windows 98 Microsoft Office Small Business Edition Free* Upgrade to Microsoft Office 2000 System Wizard Mobile Client†††† Norton AntiVirus	Microsoft Windows 98 Microsoft Office Small Business Edition Free* Upgrade to Microsoft Office 2000 System Wizard Mobile Client†††† Norton AntiVirus	Microsoft Windows 98 System Wizard Mobile Client†††† Norton AntiVirus
Training:	1-year free^ training at Micron U online	1-year free^ training at Micron U online	1-year free^ training at Micron U online	1-year free^ training at Micron U online
Also Includes:	Zoomed Video capable Li-Ion battery (dedicated bay) Microphone, stereo line-in/out jacks Touchpad pointing device CardBus ready S-Video & NTSC out; MPEG compatible Wavetable/3D Positional Sound 2-way fast infrared port 2 Type II/1 Type III PCMCIA slots 2-USB, parallel, serial, VGA, PS/2 ports	Zoomed Video capable Li-Ion battery (dedicated bay) Microphone, stereo line-in/out jacks Touchpad pointing device CardBus ready S-Video & NTSC out; MPEG compatible Wavetable/3D Positional Sound 2-way fast infrared port 2 Type II/1 Type III PCMCIA slots 2-USB, parallel, serial, VGA, PS/2 ports	Zoomed Video capable Li-Ion battery (dedicated bay) Microphone, stereo line-in/out jacks Touchpad pointing device CardBus ready S-Video & NTSC out; MPEG compatible Wavetable/3D Positional Sound 2-way fast infrared port 2 Type II/1 Type III PCMCIA slots 2-USB, parallel, serial, VGA, PS/2 ports	Zoomed Video capable Li-Ion battery (dedicated bay) Microphone, stereo line-in/out jacks Touchpad pointing device CardBus ready S-Video & NTSC out; MPEG compatible Wavetable/3D Positional Sound 2-way fast infrared port 2 Type II/1 Type III PCMCIA slots 2-USB, parallel, serial, VGA, PS/2 ports
Factory Direct Price	$1,699 $59/mo. Business Lease 36 mos.°°	$2,299 $80/mo. Business Lease 36 mos.°°	$2,699 $93/mo. Business Lease 36 mos.°°	$3,699 $120/mo. Business Lease 36 mos.°°
Order Code:	20050	20051	20052	20053

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Arm Computer's TS 759-300K features a 300MHz AMD K6-2 CPU; the Cyrix M II-300 powers Soyo's PW-9800 (below); and Transmonde's Vibrant LS contains a Pentium II PE.

Some sub-$1,000 notebooks are more than adequate for simple tasks such as word processing, e-mail, and Web browsing. WinBook Computer Corp.'s XL 300/16 notebook is one example—it's a full-size notebook with older technologies selling at a very attractive price. Weighing 7.3 pounds, the XL 300/16 sells for $999 on the Web ($1,199 if ordered by phone). It features a 300MHz MMX Pentium processor, 32MB of RAM, a 1.6GB hard drive, a 20x CD-ROM drive, two USB ports, and a 12.1-inch dual-scan display.

The TinyNote 200TNS from Mag Portable Technologies also starts at $999 and will fit comfortably on an airline tray. Weighing 3.6 pounds, the TinyNote has a 200MHz Cyrix MediaGX processor, 32MB of RAM, a 2GB hard drive, a 24x external CD-ROM drive, and an 8-inch passive-matrix display.

Yet another sub-$1,000 mini-notebook is available from Soyo Computer. The PW-9801 also sports 32MB of RAM and a 2GB hard drive, but it has a 233MHz Cyrix MediaGX processor and an 8.2-inch passive-matrix display. Unlike the TinyNote, which has a NiMH battery, the PW-9801's battery uses lithium-ion technology. Other up-to-date features include two Type II PC Card slots supporting CardBus and Zoomed Video, and two USB ports.

Because manufacturers often cut corners to meet an attractive price point, it's not always best to buy the least expensive model. Sometimes the better value lies in the next tier up, where the manufacturer has the flexibility to design a more balanced notebook. The $1,200-to-$1,600 price range shows a marked improvement in components, as well as some genuine innovation. In the sub-$1,000 category, you generally have to accept whatever features you can get. Pay an additional $200 to $600, however, and you can expect a more consistent package of features, including a 266MHz or faster processor, a 4GB hard drive, integrated CD-ROM and floppy drives (unless it's an ultralight or mini-notebook), a 12.1-inch display (possibly active-matrix), and better-quality stereo speakers.

For example, the model 1411 in IBM's ThinkPad i Series includes a 300MHz MMX Pentium processor, 32MB of RAM, a 4.3GB hard drive, 128-bit graphics, a 12.1-inch active-matrix display, an internal 56Kbps modem, and Altec Lansing SoundGuide stereo speakers. The 1411 lets you play music CDs even when the notebook is switched off. Sony Electronics' F150 3Max+ notebook includes a 300MHz Pentium II processor, 32MB of RAM, a 4.3GB hard drive, a 13-inch XGA passive-matrix display, a triple-spindle design (with integrated CD-ROM, floppy, and hard drives), a 56Kbps modem, and a lithium-ion battery. It's one of the first notebooks to include an IEEE 1394 (FireWire) port.

Yet another outstanding notebook in this price range is Compaq Computer Corp.'s Presario 1255. It has a 300MHz AMD K6-2 processor equipped with 3DNow technology, 32MB of RAM, a 4GB hard drive, a 12.1-inch passive-matrix display, a triple-spindle design, Aureal A3D Interactive 360-degree positional sound, a JBL Pro audio system with bass-reflex speakers, and a 56Kbps modem. As you can see from these examples, you can buy a lot of notebook for under $1,600, getting many of the advanced features that recently cost $4,000 or more.

When you move into the next price range—from about $1,700 to $2,200—you'll find far fewer compromises and far more leading-edge technologies. Look for speedier processors (300MHz or faster), additional memory (often 64MB), larger active-matrix screens (13.3-inch and even 14.1-inch displays), sturdier construction, and additional ease-of-use features. Where the budget-priced ThinkPad i Series and Compaq Presario 1255 are designed for an emerging home-notebook market, many of the value notebooks in this higher price range are aimed at corporations and small businesses.

For example, Toshiba America's Satellite 4030CDT is equipped with a 300MHz Celeron processor, 64MB of RAM, a 4.1GB hard drive, a 13.3-inch active-matrix display, an enhanced 3-D sound system with stereo bass-reflex speakers, and a 56Kbps modem. You also receive the Configuration Builder CD, which allows IT departments to create a customized system image in less than an hour. You can use the system image to load or reload a notebook with a standard hard drive configuration. A similarly powerful and affordable notebook is the NEC Versa Note, which features a 300MHz PE Pentium, 32MB of RAM, a 4GB hard drive, a 13.3-inch active-matrix screen, 3-D surround sound, and hardware-based MPEG-1 support.



From left: IBM's ThinkPad i Series features a triple-spindle design; Sager's NP9726H-3CD offers DVD in a notebook.

You'll also find some of the new ultralight notebooks in this price range, such as Hitachi America's VisionBook Traveler 600 and Toshiba's Portégé 3015CT. Here the specifications drop back to fit everything into a smaller package. The 2.9-pound VisionBook Traveler, for instance, features a 266MHz MMX Pentium processor, 32MB of RAM, a 4.3GB hard drive, a 10.4-inch active-matrix display, and a choice of an internal 56Kbps modem or a 10/100BaseTX LAN connection. The Portégé 3010CT (called the 3015CT at retail) also weighs 2.9 pounds. It has a 266MHz MMX Pentium processor, 32MB of RAM, a 4.3GB hard drive, 128-bit NeoMagic graphics, a 10.4-inch active-matrix display, and a 3Com 56Kbps PC Card modem.

Should you consider spending more than $2,200 for a notebook? It depends on your needs and budget. If you spend more on a notebook now, you can future-proof your purchase to some degree, but keep in mind that the difference between a 300MHz and a 366MHz processor—or between a 4GB and a 6GB hard drive—will seem insignificant in 18 months when high-end notebooks likely will have 600MHz or faster processors and 16GB hard drives. Consider how you'll use your notebook and buy accordingly. If you'll use it mostly for word processing and e-mail, you'll be well-served by most machines below $2,200. The key is to look at each component, and in each case ask yourself what you really need.

BAG OF CHIPS

You almost need a scorecard to keep track of all the processors available now in notebooks. Intel Corp. has flooded the market with mobile options, and competitors like AMD, Cyrix, and others are further swelling the sea of choices. Sizing up the competition and sorting out your selection can be a challenge.

Intel's first announcement this year was the reincarnation of the MMX Pentium chip as a 300MHz processor. Like its 266MHz counterpart (still around in low-end notebooks), the newer version is mounted in a small tape-carrier package. Intel brought the MMX Pentium processor back to market to provide a low-cost solution for its OEM customers who had inventory with this P5 architecture already in place. This is the least expensive solution available, but the introduction of the mobile

Celeron processor implies a short lifespan for MMX Pentium CPUs.

Originally a low-cost desktop chip, the Celeron went mobile in late January. Introduced at 266MHz and 300MHz speeds, this family of chips, equipped with 128K of L2 cache, targets the low end of the market. Expect to see notebook vendors replacing MMX Pentium processors with Celerons as their leading low-cost notebook centerpiece. Intel claims that Celeron chips can perform twice as fast as same-clock-speed MMX Pentium processors. (For *Computer Shopper*'s first Celeron notebook performance results, see "Lower Price, More Speed" in the Mobile section.)

Intel's second major announcement, also made in late January, was of a renewed Pentium II line. All the new Pentium II processors contain 256K on-die L2 cache, as opposed to 512K off-die L2 cache in the older Pentium line. Since the on-die L2 cache runs at the same speed as the processor, Intel claims it enables performance gains of at least 4 to 5 percent for the new Pentium IIs over same-speed chips from the older Pentium II line.

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Introduced at speeds of 266MHz, 300MHz, 333MHz, and 366MHz, the updated Pentium II line targets the mobile market's high end. In an effort to replace the previous Pentium II line, the new performance-enhanced chips cost the same as their same-speed equivalents in the old line. Note that the original Pentium IIs were available in speeds of 233MHz, 266MHz, and 300MHz, and where the two lines overlap at 266MHz and 300MHz, the newer processors are denoted as Pentium II 266MHz PE and 300MHz PE. Chips with speeds above 300MHz will not carry the PE, but are part of the new Pentium II line.

In terms of Intel options, expect the fastest performance—and the highest price—from notebooks based on new Pentium IIs. The good news is that though buying a notebook with an older Pentium II processor means you sacrifice performance slightly, you can probably find some of these now available at low prices. Here, riding the back of the technology wave won't put you on the low end of the technology spectrum. Just make sure you're not sacrificing other important factors such as components or service-and-support options.

Intel's processor road map for the year should bring even better news to bargain shoppers down the road. The company plans to release a 600MHz processor, code-named Coppermine, by year's end—an introduction that should force systems based on today's top-of-the-line Pentium II processors down in price. With mobile-processor speeds expected to rise so dramatically in the near future, it makes good sense to purchase a value-priced notebook today, reserving any high-end purchasing plans for the end of the year. Another reason that value notebooks are a good buy now is because today's difference in performance between Pentium II and Celeron processors is narrower than the discrepancies we've seen in the past. This makes the Celeron notebooks an especially good value.

Intel isn't the only player on this field. There's strong competition in the notebook-CPU value segment, especially from AMD and Cyrix.

AMD's mobile K6-2 processors are available in 266MHz, 300MHz, and 333MHz speeds and—like the newer Pentium IIs—also feature 256K of on-die L2 cache running at the same speed as the processor. K6-2 chips incorporate the 3DNow instruction set, which speeds up 3-D graphics and 3-D audio, but only in programs written to support the built-in instructions. Intel's competing Katmai instruction set won't be ready in a mobile chip until the end of the year, so for 3-D games and rendering programs, consider an AMD mobile processor.

As for Cyrix, its MediaGX processors should live on into the next millennium in 233MHz, 266MHz, and 300MHz incarnations. These CPUs have MMX instructions built in, but not 3DNow. Look for these low-cost chips in notebooks for around $1,000. And remember that MediaGX-based models hit their price points by integrating (and thereby disallowing upgrades of) graphics acceleration, the audio subsystem, the memory controller, and the PCI interface. By the time you read this, Cyrix should also offer its M II processor in mobile versions running at 233MHz (called the M II-266), 266MHz (called the M II-300), and possibly a 300MHz chip.

Also by the time you read this, IDT hopes to have debuted a version of its WinChip that will also incorporate 3DNow. However, at press time, IDT couldn't reveal processor particulars or discuss OEM partnerships.

Another chip maker, Rise Technology, offers the low-cost mP6 desktop processor, which is energy-

CE Considerations

If you're torn between a Windows CE handheld and a Windows 98 notebook, the key is to evaluate your needs carefully. In general, all handheld PC professional devices running Windows CE now share several strengths: They are more portable, they power on instantly, and they can run for 10 hours or more. They are limited to running CE programs, which are less robust and less plentiful, but suitable for word processing, e-mail, limited Web browsing, and a few simple games. If the platform's strengths align with your needs, you should consider CE devices, which are growing increasingly diverse.



From left: HP's Jornada 820 and NEC's MobilePro 800 feature Windows CE 2.11. Vadem's Clio has a trifold design.

Last year's update of the Microsoft Windows CE handheld-PC operating system, Windows CE 2.11, inspired several new devices. In addition to instant-on operation and a long battery life, all feature few moving parts, a weight of about 2 or 3 pounds, and a price under $1,000.

The release of Windows CE 2.11 also led to improvements on the software side. Pocket Internet Explorer now includes Jscript, Pocket Word supports color printing, and Pocket Outlook offers contact management. In addition, two new applications, Pocket Access and InkWriter, have been added.

Microsoft's new CE reference design for the platform's hardware is giving manufacturers the flexibility to deliver devices that differ more than ever from each other, both in design and feature set. For example, the 2.5-pound NEC MobilePro 800 has a 131MHz NEC VR4121 processor, a 9.4-inch SVGA screen, a 10-hour battery life, and a built-in 56Kbps modem. Sharp Electronics' Mobilon TriPad and Vadem's Clio—essentially the same machine—weigh 3.2 pounds. Their 9.4-inch screens have an unusual three-mode hinge design so you can use the device like a standard clamshell notebook, a tablet, or an electronic easel. Hewlett-Packard Co.'s 2.5-pound Jornada 820 features a fast StrongARM 190MHz processor and can accept an optional battery that runs for up to 15 hours.

In comparison, Hitachi's VisionBook Traveler 600 and Toshiba's Portégé 3015CT notebooks weigh 2.9 pounds, have slightly larger screens and keyboards, offer only a fraction of the battery life, and cost about twice as much. However, they have considerably more storage and can run specialized applications. Toshiba's Libretto 110CT mini-notebook is even smaller and lighter than the Jupiter-class Windows CE devices and competes more directly with midsize Windows CE handhelds like the HP 660LX and the NEC MobilePro 770.

Making a mobile purchase means making choices—whether you opt for a notebook or a handheld. The good news is that with all these options, you're increasingly likely to find the perfect fit. ▼

efficient and doesn't require a special mobile version for notebooks. Although Rise couldn't disclose any further information, keep your eyes out for mP6-based portables.

SIZING IT UP

Some of the most important considerations when buying a notebook are its weight and size, factors that can determine screen size. Because a display adds to the dimensions and heft of a notebook, you won't find one with a 14- or 15-inch screen weighing less than 3 pounds. But before jumping to the conclusion that bigger is better, visualize where you're going to use the notebook. Frequent flyers, for example, might find most notebooks with big screens virtually unusable except in first class.

If a petite form factor and a light weight aren't primary concerns, don't settle for less than a 12.1-inch screen. (If they are, see the sidebar "CE Considerations.") When choosing your display, be aware that active-matrix (also called TFT) displays are crucial if you plan to work with graphics or give presentations from your notebook. Your other, less expensive, alternative is a passive-matrix display. The latest passive-matrix panels use STN, DSTN, or HPA technologies to improve display quality. However, compared to active-matrix screens, they aren't as bright, and they have narrower viewing angles and response times. If after judging a passive screen's quality, you deem it sufficient, this is a good place to cut costs.

To make sure you have the resources to take advantage of a notebook with a larger screen, keep the following memory matters in mind. If you work with photographic images, be sure to get enough graphics memory to display 24-bit graphics. On an SVGA screen (800x600), you'll need 2MB; for an XGA screen (1,024x768), 2.5MB. As a rule of thumb, screens larger than 12.1 inches are usually XGA, screens from 10.4 to 12.1 inches are usually SVGA, and screens below 10.4 inches are usually VGA (640x480).

INSIDE AND OUT

If you'll use your notebook for presentations or applications that rely on 3-D rendering, ask whether the unit has 3-D acceleration or AGP graphics. Most have 3-D acceleration, but AGP is still relatively rare. You might find AGP in some of last year's Pentium II notebooks that are being discounted to make way for newer models. Currently, only a handful of games can take advantage of AGP's ability to shuttle large textures into and out of system memory, but many new applications should use AGP.

When it comes to system RAM, most notebooks under $2,200 come with 32MB of memory, but a growing number offer 64MB.

Shopping Tips

- Opting for a dual-scan display is a good way to save money if its brightness and viewing angle meet your needs.
- Make sure the notebook's system RAM is expandable and that slots are available for the upgrade.
- If you're buying a modular notebook, ask which types of drives or devices the component bay or bays can accept.
- For the same size and weight, lithium-ion batteries deliver more power than nickel-metal-hydride (NiMH) units. For an added fee, some manufacturers will swap out an NiMH battery for a lithium-ion battery.
- Examine service-and-support policies. Find out what is included and the extra costs you might incur should something go wrong.
- Do a background check before buying. Look into vendors' Web sites and newsgroups, and evaluate other customers' experiences.

Windows demands at least 32MB, and if you'll run several memory-intensive applications at once, insist on 64MB or more.

Make sure the memory is expandable and that slots are available—the latter so that you won't have to discard any original memory modules to make room for more. If there's one or no slots available, it's best to order more memory outright, especially if you think you might upgrade it within the next year.

Get the largest-capacity hard drive you can reasonably afford. A 4GB to 6GB capacity may be at the high end, but is attainable at value price points; look for 8GB drives to trickle down into midrange notebooks as the year progresses. If the hard drive is mounted in a removable cartridge, you may be able to upgrade it with a new drive from the manufacturer or a third-party vendor. And if your notebook has a modular bay, you might be able to add a second drive. However, it's usually cheaper and easier to buy one large hard drive rather than use two smaller drives.

If you frequently use both a CD-ROM and a floppy drive, consider one of the double- or triple-spindle designs that integrate a hard drive, a CD-ROM drive, and a floppy drive into the notebook. Another alternative is a modular notebook in which the battery, the CD-ROM drive, and the hard drive are swappable. This way, you can tailor your notebook to your needs at any given time. Additionally, some bays accept Zip or LS-120 removable-storage drives, which are a plus if you need to share large files. Before you invest in a modular, swappable design, ask exactly which types of drives and devices the bay can accept—all bays are not equal.

Whether they're integrated or sold as options, the vast majority of low-cost notebooks have CD-ROM drives with at least 20x read speeds. If you like to play music CDs, look for a notebook that lets you play music with the unit powered down.

DVD-ROM drives now let you watch movies on your notebook as well. Many models with DVD are now available for under $2,500. For example, Gateway's Solo 3100LS, based on a 300MHz Pentium II processor, has an integrated DVD-ROM drive and a PC Card DVD decoder. (The latter leaves only one free PC Card slot.) If you're considering DVD, you'll want a second-generation drive capable of reading CD-Recordable and CD-Rewritable disks. Also remember that running the DVD drive will quickly drain your battery, and you'll need a spare to watch an entire movie unplugged.

Your notebook's audio quality might not be that important to you, but a few simple factors can make all the difference. Check the placement of the speakers and make sure your hands won't cover them as you type. Be sure that side-mounted speakers are as loud as you need, and that there's more than one speaker—some models deliver stereo audio only through the headphone jack. Also check for a built-in microphone, which will make it easier to use telephony-based voice mail.

IN FOR THE LONG HAUL

Expect your battery to last at least 2.5 hours under normal use. Lithium-ion batteries are better than nickel metal-hydride (NiMH) because they deliver more power for the same size and weight, and they tend not to develop power deficits if they aren't fully discharged. For an added fee, some manufacturers will swap out NiMH batteries for lithium-ion. Smaller notebooks usually have smaller batteries, so watch out for lightweight notebooks that skimp on battery life.

Protecting the well-being of your notebook is also important. Most value notebooks come with a one-year warranty, as opposed to the three-year warranty of many high-end models. Some manufacturers offer extended warranties for an additional fee, something to consider depending on the price and services offered. Investigate warranty details up front, including who pays for shipping, the average turnaround time for a repair, and whether you can receive a replacement unit while your notebook is being fixed. Also find out who pays for calls to technical support, whether your local warranty-repair shop stocks a full set of parts for your model, and if parts are available from the manufacturer.

For third-party input, newsgroups, mailing lists, and Web sites carrying discussions about the company or specific notebook you're considering can be invaluable. Though you'll probably encounter a disproportionate number of complaints in these dialogues, you may also uncover significant defects or lapses in service.

THE GETTING'S GOOD

Chances are good today that you can get most of the features you need in a value-priced notebook. You just have to know what you're looking for and be prepared to shop around. With the advice we've given in hand, you'll be well-equipped to comparison-shop and bargain-hunt. And with the wealth of computing power and selection on the market, you should be able to keep the compromises you make to a minimum. ▼

SECTION CONTINUES ON PAGE 208
COMPARISON CHARTS ON PAGE 404

You Name It, The XL²'s Got It.



This thin, all-in-one notebook is loaded with features plus Intel's speedy new chips!

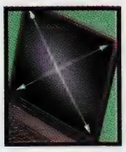
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And there's more! Like the speedy Intel® Mobile Pentium® II Processor featuring MMX™ technology at 300 MHz (or faster), fast SDRAM up to 128 MB, and a huge Ultra DMA hard drive. Plus, there's a dazzling 14.1" active matrix display. And it's only 1 1/2" thin. You just might call this the notebook of your dreams! And it's easy to order online – at www.winbook.com or by phone – so come and get it!



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Huge, bright 14.1" TFT display

16 Million colors 1024 x 768 XGA



2x DVD-ROM built-in (Reads CD-ROM)



2x AGP Graphics Port for fast 3-D rendering

ATI Rage LT Pro 3-D w/4 MB of SGRAM for dazzling graphics



LS-120 SuperDisk™ Drive built-in (Reads and writes 120 MB SuperDisk™ Diskettes and 1.44 MB floppy disks)



Up to 128 MB of fast SDRAM– Work faster and run multiple programs at once



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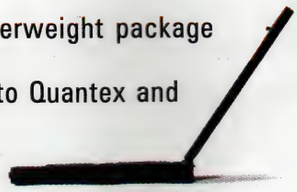
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300MHZ MOBILE CELERON-BASED NOTEBOOKS

Lower Price, More Speed

Intel's new Mobile Celeron processor boosts performance but not price for these two value notebooks.

beta With the recent release of the 266MHz and 300MHz Mobile Celeron processors, an entirely new level of performance is available for value-conscious notebook users.

The Mobile Celeron is designed for low-cost systems, but it still delivers impressive performance. It's based on the same processor technology as the recently released Mobile Pentium II CPUs, but with one exception: The Celeron only has 128K of L2 cache, compared to the 256K in the Pentium IIs. As of this writing, however, only the new Mobile Celeron processors and Mobile Pentium II CPUs have the L2 cache on the processor die, allowing the cache to run at full speed.

One important similarity with the Mobile Pentium II is the Celeron's meager power consumption (only 1.6 volts in its core, and 1.8 volts for I/O operations). That leaves the door open for inexpensive systems offering both speedy performance and excellent battery life. And if Dell Computer Corp.'s Inspiron 3500 C300XT and Gateway's Solo 2500SE are any indication, the Mobile Celeron clearly lives up to its potential.

Both notebooks are configured with a 300MHz Mobile Celeron processor, 64MB of SDRAM, and a 4.3GB hard drive.

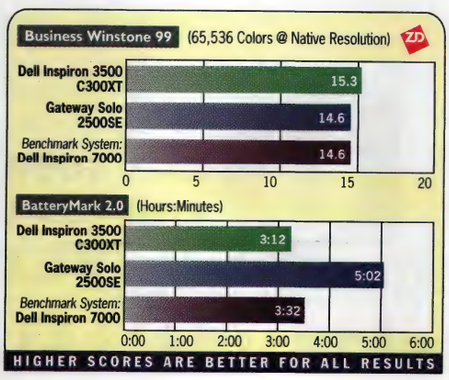


The Inspiron's graphics performance takes advantage of its luminous 13.1-inch display.

Both units also made impressive showings on our benchmark tests. The Inspiron's Business Winstone 99 score of 15.3 and the Solo's score of 14.6 both top the average 14.4 score we've seen for 300MHz Mobile Pentium II notebooks.

Though the 300MHz Mobile Pentium II may have 512K of L2 cache, it is not integrated onto the processor die. This means the cache can only run at half the processor's speed.

The Inspiron and Solo also have similar-performing hard drive subsystems, which our tests show are only a hair slower than those of average 300MHz Pentium II-based notebooks. Moreover, the Inspiron's score of 97 on the Business Graphics WinMark 99 is one of the best we've seen for any notebook—and almost twice the Solo's result of 54. This exceptional application performance is attributable to the Inspiron's lightning-fast graphics subsystem, with some assistance from a new driver for its NeoMagic MagicMedia 256AV graphics chip.



By the same token, any notebook that lasts more than 3 hours on the BatteryMark 2.0 test gets our nod of approval—and the Inspiron's admirable 3 hours and 12 minutes is no exception. But that can't hold a candle to the Solo's amazing 5 hours and 2 minutes. (For an additional $129, though, you can equip the Inspiron with a second simultaneously installed battery that will boost its battery life to more than 6 hours.)

Battery performance isn't the only distinction between the two notebooks. With the Solo selling at $1,824 direct and the Inspiron at $2,229 direct, there's also a significant $405 difference in price. The Inspiron's premium can be partially explained by its larger display. The Solo's active-matrix display measures 12.1 inches diagonally with a native resolution of 800x600; the Inspiron's display is 13.1 inches and has a native resolution of 1,024x768. Both displays are crisp and bright, and both notebooks support 24-bit color at their native resolutions. The Solo also includes a composite video-out jack for sending its display signal to a TV.



The Solo 2500SE turned in an incredible BatteryMark score of 5 hours and 2 minutes.

Frequent travelers who count every ounce and inch should note that the Inspiron's 6.5-pound, 1.4x12.8x10.1-inch (HWD) case is slightly thinner and lighter than the 6.9-pound, 2x11.6x9.3-inch Solo's. The Solo's added bulk comes from its fixed floppy and CD-ROM drives, whereas the Inspiron sheds a few ounces by taking a modular approach: A bay holds either the floppy or CD-ROM drive. Although the Inspiron must be powered down before any devices are swapped out, the floppy drive also can be used externally.

Both notebooks offer the option to trade in the CD-ROM drive for a DVD-ROM drive and an MPEG-2 PC Card (a $249 option for the Inspiron, $150 for the Solo). If you want a DVD-ROM drive with the Solo, however, you will have to decide when you purchase the notebook, because the drive is not removable.

The Solo comes with more software, but the Inspiron has a longer warranty. Dell covers the Inspiron's parts and labor for three years, whereas Gateway covers the Solo's for only one year. For an additional $100, however, you can upgrade the Solo's warranty to three years.

Both the Inspiron and Solo offer impressive performance at a relatively low price. The Solo sports a significantly lower price and has the battery life to be a tried-and-true road warrior's best friend. But if you need the extra screen real estate, blazing graphics performance, or the slightly lighter load, the Inspiron may be your speed. ***—Daniel A. Begun***

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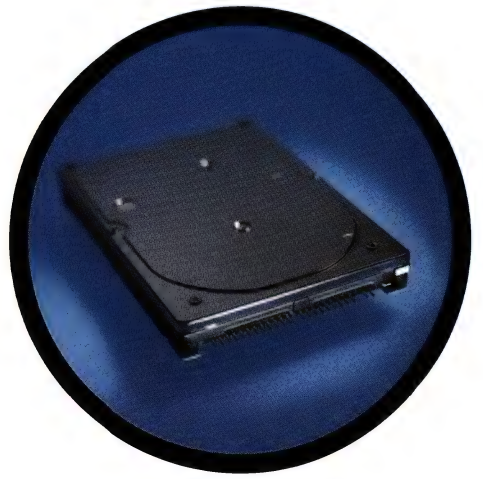




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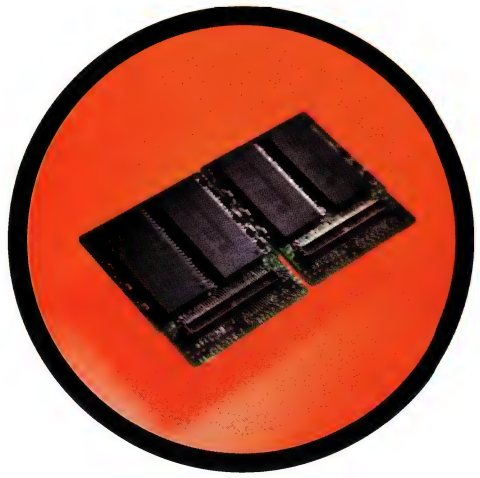


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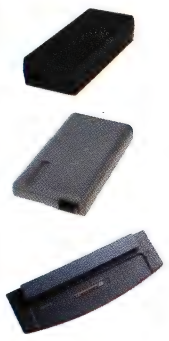
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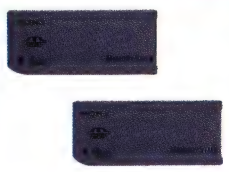
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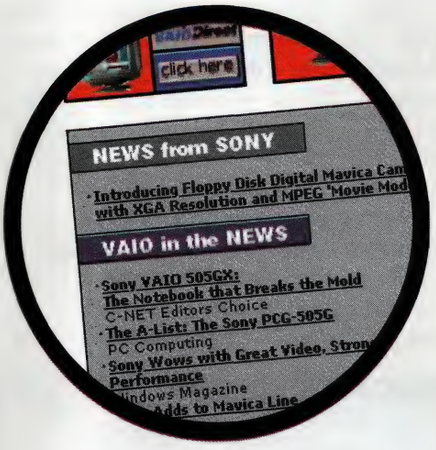
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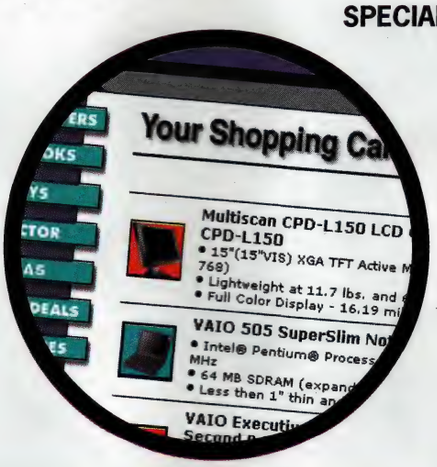




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WINDOWS CE PROFESSIONAL EDITION HPCs

Your New Road Buddy?

The latest Windows CE Professional Edition handheld PCs offer all you really need for mobile computing.

BY JOHN R. QUAIN

How much work do you really do on the road? If you're like most computer users, you end up hauling a 7- to 9-pound, $2,000 laptop around just so you can check e-mail and go over a few notes in your hotel room. So why not take something that is lighter, does the same thing, and costs about half the price?

That's the pitch behind a slew of recent devices that use the Microsoft Windows CE Handheld PC (HPC) Professional Edition operating system (also known by its code name, Jupiter). Positioned between the quick-reference capabilities of a PalmPilot and the full features of a Windows 98 laptop, these devices are designed for those users who don't need the power of a PC when they travel, but still want more than what a Palm-size PC has to offer.

The three $999 Windows HPC Pro models reviewed here—the HP Jornada 820 Handheld PC, the NEC MobilePro 800, and the Vadem Clio—are not stand-alone computers; they lack hard drives, floppy drives, and CD-ROM drives. Then again, they were not intended to replace PCs, but to complement them.

With the ability to support downloaded files from your primary PC, an HPC lets you take a file, and edit it or add to it. However, the Pocket versions of Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, and Internet Explorer loaded onto the units do not offer the same features as their PC counterparts. Pocket PowerPoint, for example, still does not let you create a new slide immediately before making a presentation.

In evaluating the three machines reviewed here, we also noted one other crucial buying issue: performance. If you do serious number-crunching, don't expect much from a Windows HPC Pro device. Opening complicated 1MB Excel spreadsheets with formulas and several sheets can take a while.

Nevertheless, all three of these units do boast some advantages over conventional laptop computers. For example, they turn on instantly and can last about 10 hours on a single charge—more than double the staying power of most laptops. And they weigh considerably less than most notebooks, with the heaviest of the three tipping the scales at just 3.2 pounds.

In addition, all the Windows HPC Pro models reviewed here include a modem. So you can do some Web browsing on the road—something the smaller, monochrome screens of Palm-size PCs make just about impossible. However, when it comes to downloading your e-mail, you're limited to Microsoft Outlook; Lotus Notes users and other e-mail clients are out of luck.

HP JORNADA 820 HANDHELD PC

Billed primarily as an "e-mail companion," the 2.6-pound HP



From left to right: HP Jornada 820 Handheld PC, NEC MobilePro 800, Vadem Clio

Jornada 820 is the closest unit in this group to looking and acting like a standard notebook computer. Powered by an Intel StrongARM CPU, the device comes with 16MB of RAM, though for holding programs, it contains only 16MB of ROM (versus the 24MB or more found on the other two models in this sampling). You can, however, add a Type II PC Card or a CompactFlash card for additional memory. Connections include serial, IrDA, and USB ports, as well as a VGA port for simultaneously displaying presentations on a larger display. The only item missing is a parallel port to hook up a printer.

PRODUCT	HP Jornada 820 Handheld PC
COMPANY	Hewlett-Packard Co. Palo Alto, CA; 800-443-1254, 650-857-1501 www.hp.com/jornada
MFR. EST. PRICE	$999
PRODUCT	NEC MobilePro 800
COMPANY	NEC Computer Systems Division Mountain View, CA; 888-863-2669, 508-264-8000 www.nec-computers.com
MFR. EST. PRICE	$999
PRODUCT	Vadem Clio
COMPANY	Vadem San Jose, CA; 888-468-2336, 408-467-2100 www.vadem.com
MFR. EST. PRICE	$999

The Jornada's screen is sharp enough for most word processing tasks. The 8.2-inch, 256-color VGA display is crisp and clear, and should be sufficient to do work on for a couple of hours, although like the other models here, it uses only dual-scan technology.

None of the Windows HPC Pro models comes with a full-size keyboard, but the Jornada is best-suited to touch-typists. The HP's keyboard is larger than the MobilePro and Clio keyboards, which feel cramped by comparison.

The other element that makes the Jornada appear more like a laptop than the other two units included here is its touch pad, located below the keyboard's spacebar. Moving the cursor with it takes some getting used to, but since the Jornada lacks a touch screen and a stylus, it's the only way to navigate.

Toting the Jornada around is considerably easier and more comfortable than is shoving a full-size laptop into a briefcase. This HPC is also solidly constructed, though a rear port cover on the review unit refused to stay attached. Measuring just 1.3x9.5x6.75 inches (HWD), the Jornada fits comfortably on an airplane tray-table. And it does everything it's supposed to do, including easy e-mail downloads using the built-in 56Kbps V.90 modem. Best of all, the Jornada lasted the duration of more than one 10-hour business trip.

NEC MOBILEPRO 800

Like HP's Jornada, NEC's MobilePro 800 mimics the design of a full-featured laptop and adds one nice touch: It has the sharpest screen we've seen so far on a Windows HPC Pro device.

Measuring 9.4 inches diagonally, the MobilePro's screen is capable of displaying 16-bit color in SVGA mode. The unit doesn't have a touch pad, like the Jornada, but it does have a touchscreen and a stylus. This HPC relies on an NEC VCR4121 MIPS processor for power, and also comes with 16MB of RAM and 24MB of ROM.

At 1.1x9.6x7.5 inches (HWD) and 2.5 pounds, the MobilePro is roughly the same size and weight as the Jornada. The chassis has enough room to house a Type II PC Card and a CompactFlash slot. External connections, too, closely match those of the Jornada—including a port for connecting a VGA monitor, a USB plug, a serial-cable jack, and a built-in 56Kbps V.90 modem. Also like the Jornada, the MobilePro lacks a parallel port.

The MobilePro comes with all the standard Windows CE applications, including the voice recorder and Pocket versions of Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint. It also bundles two notable software additions: Puma's IntelliSync software and Westtek's Jetcet PowerPoint Companion. IntelliSync is an alternative to Outlook, and lets users synchronize the MobilePro with their Lotus Organizer and Symantec Act PIMs. The Jetcet software, meanwhile, lets you create and edit new PowerPoint presentations, and effectively eliminates one of the biggest criticisms business users have levied against Windows CE.

With an unusual set of touch-sensitive buttons that line each side of the screen, NEC makes sure that users have quick and easy access to the applications, as well as to various system functions. On the left, you can activate functions such as the memory-allocation program and the alarm-clock settings. On the right, you'll find five programmable buttons that can be set to launch your own favorite tasks.

The MobilePro proved to be an amiable traveling companion, although we have two complaints. First, typing on it can be a strain. Like the Jornada, the MobilePro has a wrist rest below the keyboard, but the keyboard is more cramped; it's the same width as the Jornada's, but not as deep. Second, the idiosyncratic design of the modem port causes its cover to remain partially open to hold the RJ-11 jack in place. This makes it easier to break if you're not diligent about closing it after each use.

VADEM CLIO

If HP and NEC have done everything possible to make Windows HPC Pro users feel as if they're still using a notebook, then Vadem has gone out of its way to make the point that its Clio is not your father's laptop. From its space-age frogdesign case to its swinging screen, the Clio breaks new ground.

The Clio's basic specifications closely match those of the Jornada and the MobilePro 800. It is powered by an NEC VR4111 MIPS processor, comes with 16MB of RAM, 24MB of ROM, a PC Card Type II slot, and space for a CompactFlash card behind the lithium-ion battery. The Clio also has the requisite serial port and an IrDA port for uploading and downloading data, but there's no parallel port and worse, no VGA port—which leaves presenters high and dry. The Clio's case is slightly smaller than the other two cases, but it's noticeably heavier at 3.2 pounds.

Above all, the Clio is designed for inveterate note-takers. Its 9.4-inch, 256-color VGA screen swings on two supporting arms, letting you use it at an angle while you type, or remove it completely and fold it down over the keyboard for use as a writing tablet.

To turn your jottings into text, the Clio comes preloaded with CalliGrapher, a handwriting-recognition package that handles both printed notes and cursive handwriting, and launches automatically when you flip the screen into note-taking position. Calligrapher works better than most handwriting-recognition programs, though it is far from perfect. Practice improves your success, and even with errors, we became addicted to jotting down notes and quick reminders during meetings.

For communicating with the rest of the world, Vadem includes both Outlook and Bsquare's bFax Pro—although we wish Vadem would have selected a faster V.90 modem rather than the slow 33.6Kbps model found on the review unit.

Most of the design touches, such as the suspended stylus cradle at the bottom of the screen, convey a hipper-than-thou attitude; others simply create problems. The keyboard, for example, is curved slightly back toward the screen, which is guaranteed to have most typists constantly hunting for the right key. But if your prime concern for getting a Windows HPC Pro is to impress others with your high-tech sense of style, the Vadem Clio will certainly deliver.

CONCLUSION

Although these Windows HPC Pro models are welcome choices to the current panoply of portable-computing devices, buyers may be hard-pressed to justify their purchase. Even at discounted prices, these HPCs are twice the price of Palm-size PIMs, such as Casio's Cassiopeia E-10. Moreover, there are many low-end notebooks for about the same price that can run Windows 98 without compatibility issues.

Still, if you're in the market for something with features that fall between those of a Rex Pro and those of your laptop, any of these three Windows HPC Pro devices will do just fine. ▼

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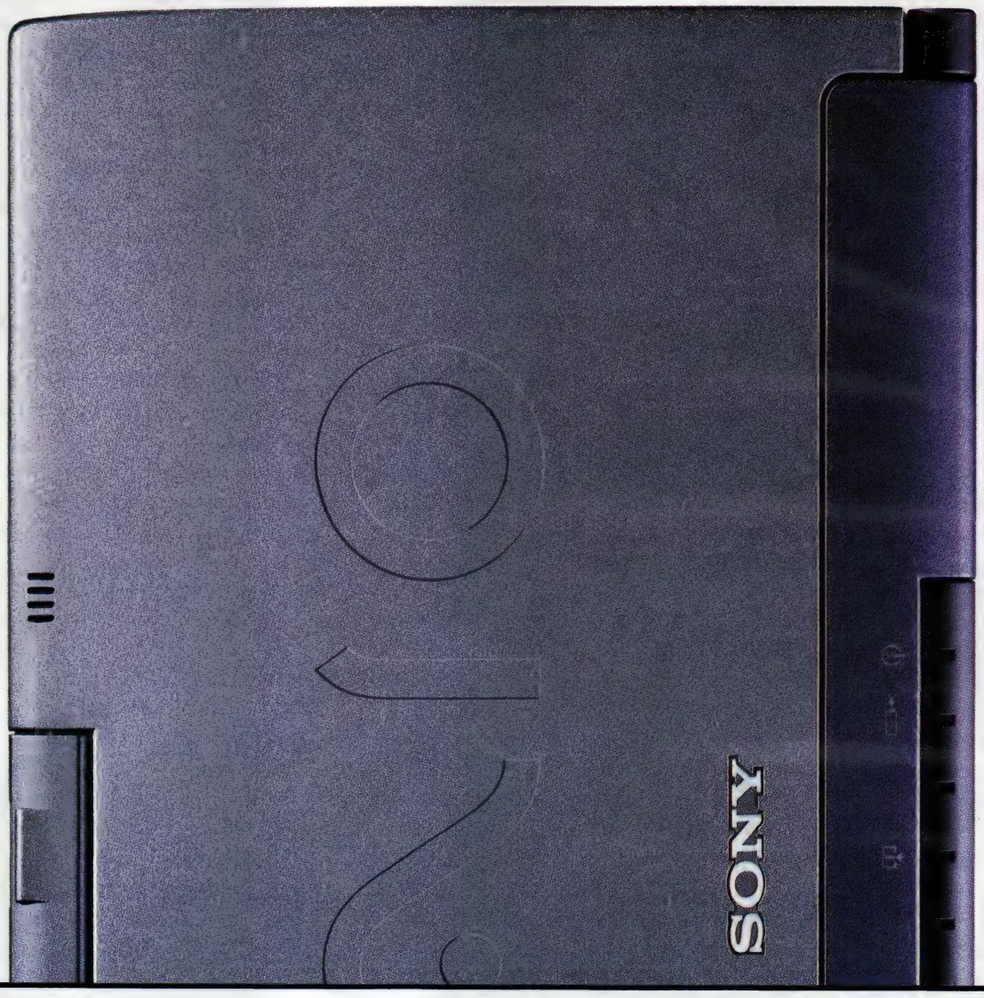
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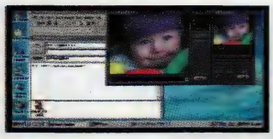
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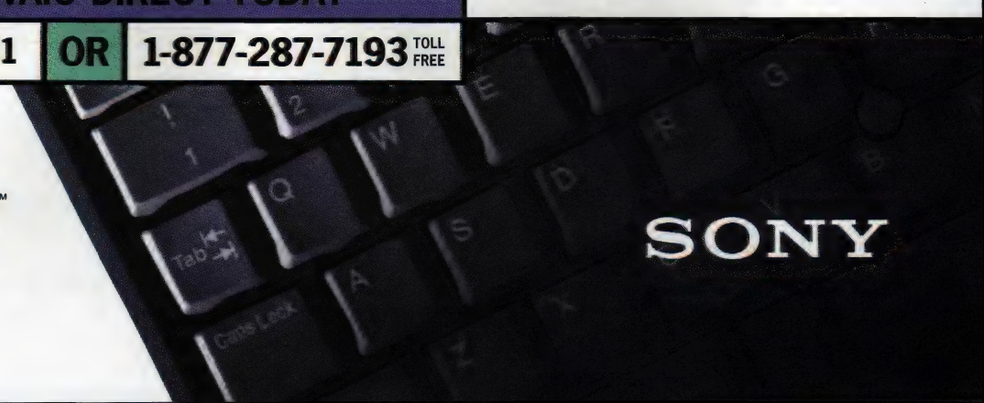


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HOW TO BUY MOBILE

Before you purchase a mobile computer, evaluate your needs. Products in different market segments deliver different types of features. The goal is to buy a PC or device that's most appropriate for the way you'll use it. To be sure all your mobile-computing needs are met with aplomb, you may want more than one portable unit. You may actually find you want as many as three to cover all the bases: a full-featured notebook, a handheld PC, and a Palm-size PC. Each has distinct advantages and disadvantages, and each is suited to somewhat different uses.

Fit to Function

Mobile devices can range from 6-ounce coat-pocket machines to 9-pound barely-fit-on-the-airline-tray desktop replacements with 15-inch screens—and there's plenty of variety in between.

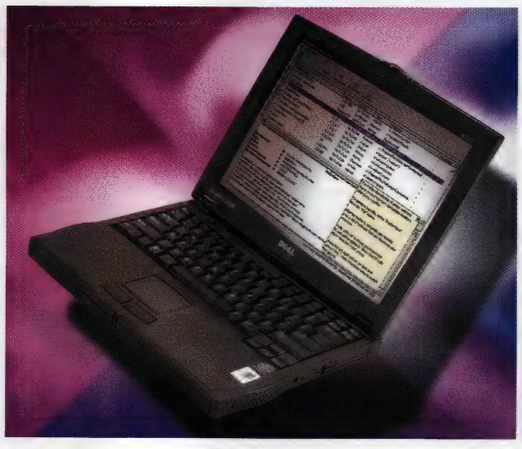
The key to finding the perfect fit is selecting a unit that meshes the right form factor with the right functionality for your needs.

If you need a small device, you'll probably be choosing a handheld PC or a Palm-size device. These units range from 6-ounce shirt-pocket-size devices (often referred to as Palm-size PCs) to 3-pound notebook-size devices that are larger than some notebooks (otherwise known as handheld PCs). Their advantages include portability and instant access to information; however, they do not offer the full spectrum of applications available to notebook PCs or notebooks' higher levels of performance.

Here are some general guidelines to help you zero in on the market segment or segments you should be exploring based on your usage patterns and needs.

CONSIDER A NOTEBOOK IF...

> You need a Windows 95 or 98 machine that can function as a portable office.
> You need to create files on a continual basis, in addition to viewing and editing those files.
> You tend to work with several programs simultaneously.
> You use specialized applications; thousands of titles are available for Windows 98 notebooks.
> You tend to work for long periods at a time.
> You need the comfort and flexibility of a larger keyboard, larger screen, and larger amount of onboard storage.
> You need to do extensive Web browsing and must have full access to your e-mail account.
> You need to give presentations and be able to alter those presentations when traveling.



CONSIDER A HANDHELD PC IF...

> You can get by with a subset of your office that's designed to complement—rather than duplicate—your desktop or notebook computer.
> You need to edit files frequently, in addition to viewing data.
> You tend to work with typical business apps; handheld PCs have a limited selection of programs, including Pocket versions of Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Outlook.
> You tend to work for relatively brief periods; the instant-on capability and small size make handheld PCs ideal for occasional use.
> You need a compromise device that combines some of the functionality of a notebook with some of the portability of a PDA.
> You need full access to your e-mail account and need to do only light Web browsing.
> You need to give presentations, but don't need to alter those presentations when traveling.

CONSIDER A PALM-SIZE PC IF...

> You primarily need to keep track of personal information, such as lists and contacts.
> You need to primarily view lists and contracts, making occasional edits and additions.
> You tend to work in short bursts throughout the day; the instant-on capability and extremely small size make Palm-size PCs ideal for frequent on-and-off use.
> You need an extremely portable device, even if the portability severely compromises the device's functionality.
> You need to read your e-mail and give only limited replies. (Handwriting recognition and onscreen keyboards can be hard to use.)

Fundamentals

Here is an overview of what characteristics, strengths, and detractions you can expect from each mobile category. Once you narrow your choice to one of these form factors, you must determine how much processing power, memory, hard drive space, and expandability you will need. For extensive advice on making these decisions, see our semiannual portable Shopper's Guides and use our How-to-Buy Index at *computershopper.com*.

NOTEBOOKS

> **Weight:** between 2 and 10 pounds
> **Keyboard:** medium-size to full-size QWERTY keyboard
> **Native LCD Resolution:** 640x480 (VGA) to 1,024x768 (XGA)
> **Price Range:** $999 to more than $4,500
> **Pros:** can run standard Windows 95 and 98 programs
> **Cons:** least portable of these categories of devices

HANDHELD PCs

> **Weight:** about 15 ounces to about 3 pounds
> **Keyboard:** small to medium-size QWERTY keyboard
> **Screen Resolution:** 320x480 to 640x480
> **Price Range:** $399 to $999
> **Pros:** usable keyboard; instant-on capability
> **Cons:** not small enough to fit into a shirt pocket

PALM-SIZE PCs

> **Weight:** about 6 ounces
> **Input:** handwriting recognition and onscreen keyboard
> **Screen Resolution:** 160x160 to 320x240 (not including the Rex)
> **Price Range:** $179 to $519
> **Pros:** extremely portable; instant-on capability
> **Cons:** Applications have limited capabilities. ▼

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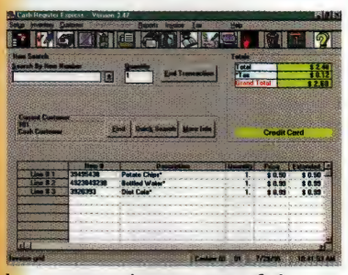


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TRENDS

Future Is in the Cards for 3Dfx

The leading 3-D chip supplier purchases board-maker STB in a bid to market branded products and bolster OEM business.

You have to wonder if **3Dfx Interactive**—arguably the industry's standard-bearer for 3-D graphics acceleration—isn't gambling the cachet of the **Voodoo** name on its planned $141 million purchase of graphics-board manufacturer **STB Systems.** By the same token, you might ask why STB, which had built much of its success over the last three years on products using chips from **nVidia Corp.**, would join destinies with 3Dfx. (Then again, considering the ever-shrinking profit margins and diminishing shelf life for graphics cards, maybe that one isn't so tough to figure out.)



Prior to its purchase by 3Dfx, STB garnered much acclaim for its Riva TNT-based Velocity 4400 card.

In many ways, though, this partnership makes perfect sense: Although 3Dfx hopes to continue selling the **Voodoo2** and **Voodoo Banshee** chip sets to its current accounts, it will retain exclusive rights to all future products, including the next-generation **Voodoo3**. The deal also enables 3Dfx to enter the graphics-card arena with its own branded product—a move some analysts suggest will quickly propel the company into competition with market leaders **ATI Technologies** and **Matrox Graphics**. Even more important is the potential benefit of STB's OEM relationships with numerous PC vendors, an association that may ultimately provide 3Dfx with a foothold in that important segment of the business. (Not surprisingly, soon after the deal was announced, STB switched from a **Riva TNT** to a Voodoo3 chip set on its upcoming motherboard design.)

Word of the merger caught most of 3Dfx's clientele by surprise. Indeed, some disgruntled former customers even questioned the continued viability of the Glide API and noted an alleged lack of "a number of key features" in the Voodoo3.

Interestingly, the party that seemed to immediately benefit from the purchase was 3Dfx competitor nVidia. In addition to having produced the first serious challenger to the Voodoo2, the Riva TNT, nVidia stands to gain substantial business from former 3Dfx clients **Creative Labs** and **Diamond Multimedia Systems**.

The bottom line: If the Voodoo3 maintains some of that old black magic, 3Dfx could very well emerge as a market superpower by year's end. If not, get prepared for a no-holds-barred shakeout throughout the graphics industry. At the very least, this deal is likely to trigger further consolidation among key card vendors and suppliers.

What does this all mean to you? For one, it's reasonable to assume that the next wave of 2-D/3-D graphics accelerators is going to be more competitive, both in terms of price and performance, than any previous generation. Furthermore, if 3Dfx is successful in shoring up its OEM business, expect to see more emphasis on 3-D gaming capabilities for systems at all price levels. Suffice it to say, it appears that the graphics-accelerator market is about to shift into overdrive.

S3 ROARS BACK

Another chip supplier making headlines these days is **S3**. Although the company has been keeping a relatively low profile following last year's disappointing launch of its **Savage3D** chip, S3 is back—emboldened by its new alliance with **Intel Corp.** and an impressive (on paper, at least) new chip, the **Savage4**, which should be available by the time you read this.

The agreement between Intel and S3 was signed late last year and calls for sharing each other's intellectual property for the next 10 years. Intel also purchased an undisclosed amount of S3 stock and is expected to use the company's technology in future processor designs.

The arrangement has already paid off for S3: As Intel's first AGP 4x Validation Partner, S3 is expected to be the first vendor to market a 4x AGP graphics solution. In addition to 4x AGP, the Savage4 offers up to 32MB of memory, 32-bit 3-D rendering, hardware DVD support, and complete digital flat-panel support. The chip will be available in two configurations: the **Savage4 Pro** for midrange PCs and the **Savage4 GT** for entry-level systems.

Almost immediately after it was announced, S3 signed up its first design win with longtime partner Diamond Multimedia, which plans to begin marketing its first Savage4-based product to both retailers and OEMs next month.

"Given the substantial demand for Savage4 thus far, we expect to win a significant share of OEM designs in 1999," said Ken Potashner, S3 president and CEO, in a prepared statement. Sounds like fighting words to us.

—Steve Schwartz

ACTIVE LINKS

www.stb.com/press/aquire12_14.html.....STB Announces Purchase
www.s3.com/savage4.....S3 Unveils Savage4
www.hp.com/pressrel/jan99/06jan99.htm.....Apollo Launch

NEWSBITS

APOLLO BLASTS OFF

Don't expect **Hewlett-Packard Co.** to enter the low end of the printer market anytime soon. But HP's new **Apollo Computer Products** subsidiary will jump in later this spring with a line of sub-$100 color inkjets. Despite Apollo's motto, "Great value in style," the printers themselves will bear "Powered by HP inkjet technology" stickers. Created to appeal to sub-$1,000 PC buyers, the printers are expected to be bundled with low-cost PCs in the near future.



LCD PRICES TO RISE?

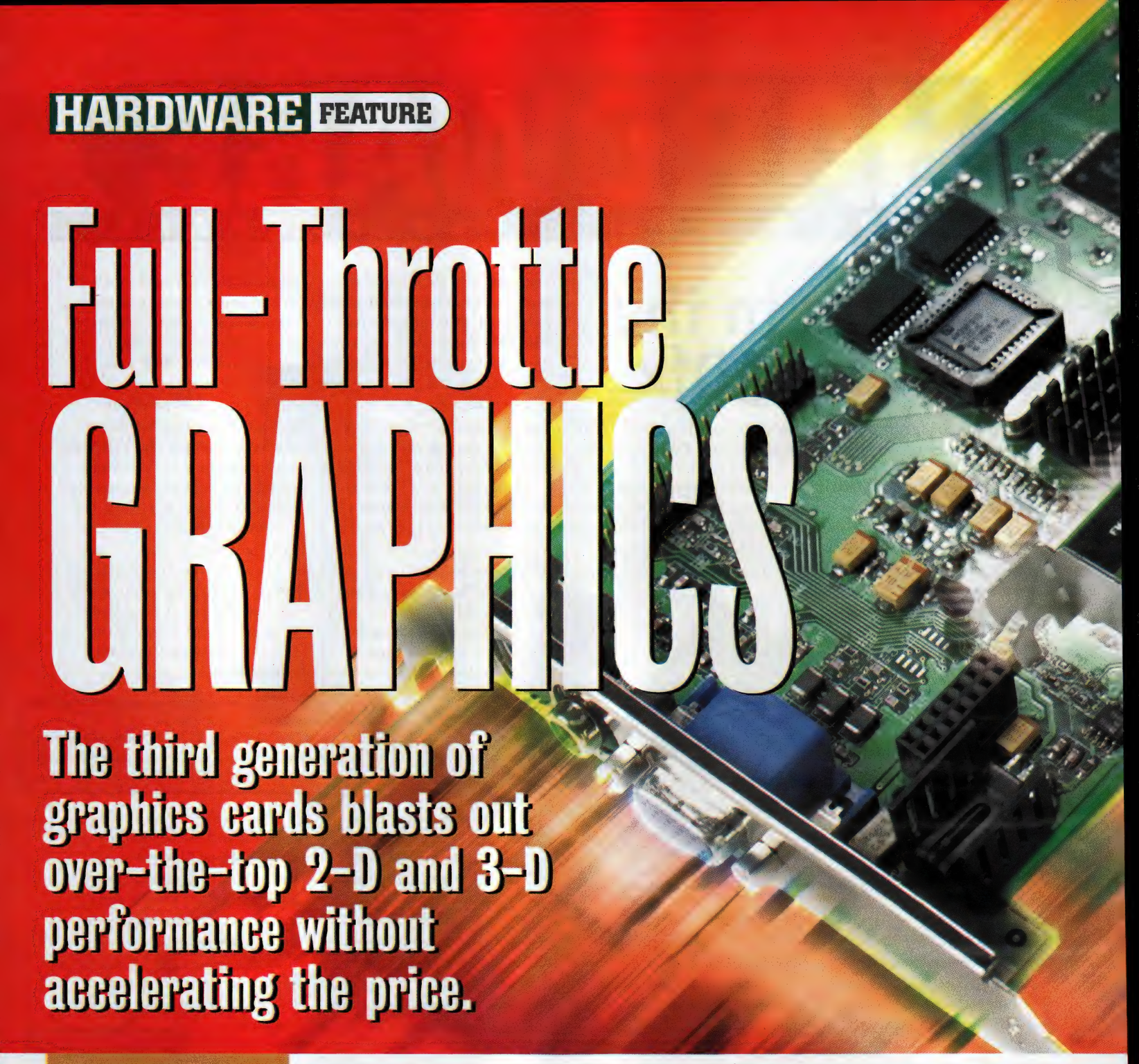
If you're planning to buy a new flat-panel display, you may not want to wait much longer. The world's leading liquid-crystal display (LCD) suppliers—including **NEC, Sanyo, Sharp,** and **Toshiba**—aim to raise LCD prices between 25 and 40 percent this year. The increase comes in response to the sudden surge in demand and to recoup from last year's 50 percent-plus drop in pricing. ▼

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HARDWARE FEATURE

Full-Throttle GRAPHICS



The third generation of graphics cards blasts out over-the-top 2-D and 3-D performance without accelerating the price.

BY LOYD CASE

When you're in a white-knuckle duel with a biomechanical fiend, you don't want *anything* to stall that next immensely satisfying explosion. Fortunately, you've got a new crop of high-octane graphics accelerators on your side.

In the past several months, graphics-card vendors have launched a raft of third-generation accelerators that pack plenty of wallop for fast-twitch gamers, while still satisfying the needs of mainstream PC users. And considering that prices have corkscrewed downward during the past year, it's a great time to be a gamer.

These cards are all capable of simultaneously processing 128 bits of data. They deliver vastly improved 3-D capability by taking advantage of the AGP bus and the more sophisticated Direct3D API included in Microsoft Corp.'s DirectX 6. And they do so without reducing resolution or 2-D performance. In fact, these cards deliver the best of both worlds by boosting 2-D prowess to enable performance in 24- or 32-bit color.

For this roundup, we requested AGP-bus cards that pump out 2-D and 3-D graphics under Windows 98 with support for the Microsoft Direct3D API and DirectX 6. We required that the cards be stoked with a minimum of 8MB of video RAM and support 128-bit graphics acceleration. All the cards had an average mail-order price of less than $200, and one even dipped below $100.

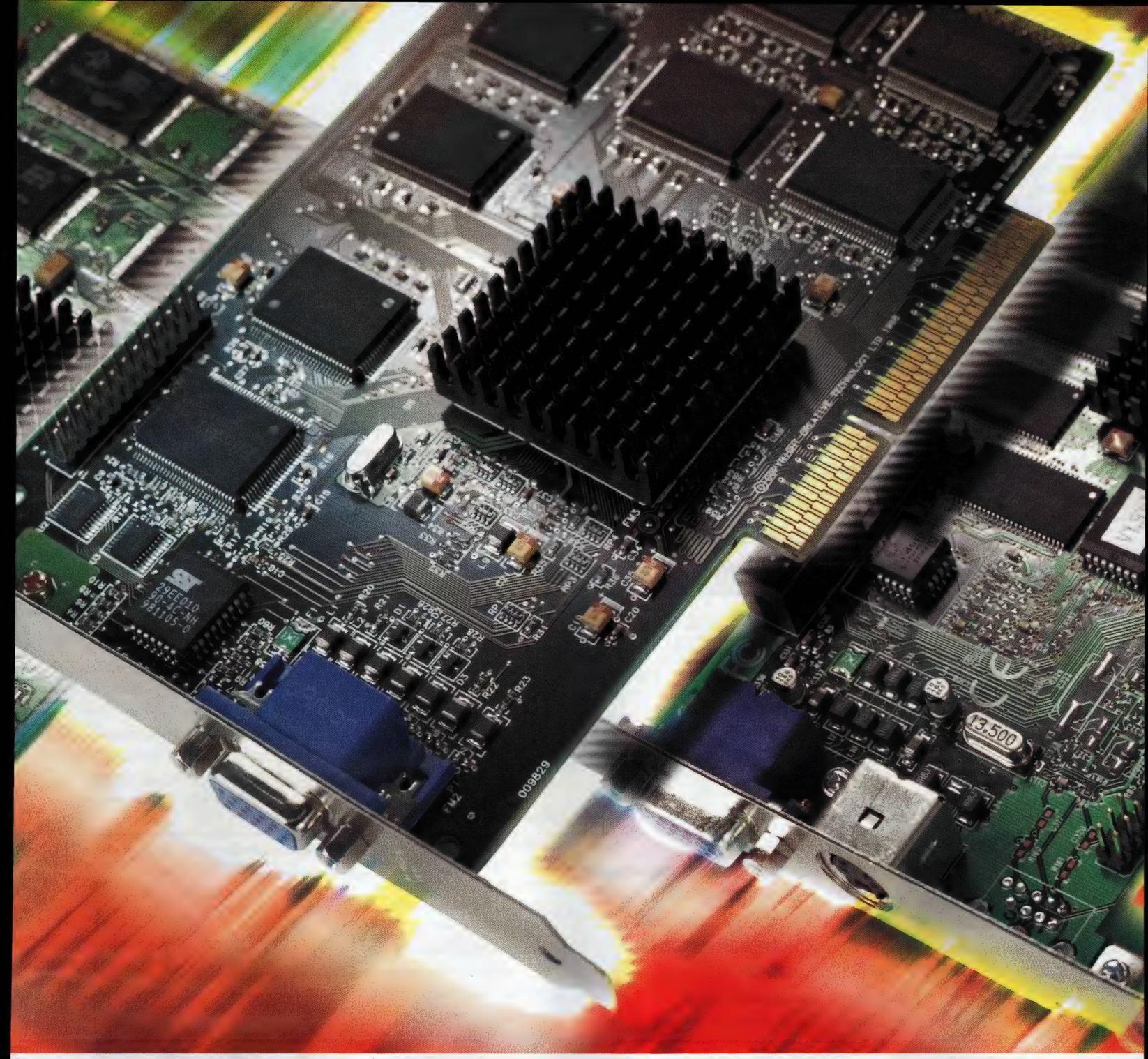
Seven vendors answered our call, submitting cards that use one of four chip sets: ATI Technologies' Rage 128 GL, nVidia Corp.'s Riva TNT, S3's Savage3D, and 3Dfx Interactive's Voodoo Banshee.

Besides new chips, these graphics cards all ship with more memory than was available at this price level a year ago. With the exception of the 8MB Hercules Terminator

PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRIS GOULD

FACT FILE

Category Tested	2-D/3-D AGP graphics cards
Price Range	$92 to $170
Minimum Configuration	AGP bus, 8MB RAM, DirectX 6 compatibility
Companies Included	ATI Technologies, Creative Labs, Diamond Multimedia, ELSA, Hercules Computer Technology, Quantum3D, and STB Systems



Beast, five cards in this roundup came with 16MB of SDRAM, and the ATI Rage Fury was loaded with a whopping 32MB of SDRAM. In our June 1998 roundup of 2-D/3-D cards, the norm was 4MB of SGRAM. The memory boost enhances 3-D rendering and helps the cards display higher resolutions.

The most popular chip in the feature was the nVidia Riva TNT, which powers three of the boards. Despite running at only 90MHz, the TNT cards placed at the top of the charts in 2-D and 3-D performance.

TNT refers to the chip's Twin Texel architecture, which gives it dual 3-D-rendering pipelines for fast pixel drawing. The chip also sports a large texture cache and a super-speedy floating-point setup engine. The Riva TNT renders in 24-bit true color and can perform stencil buffers in hardware, a feature frequently used for shadows and other lighting effects. It also supports anisotropic filtering, a more precise technique for filtering texture images than the more traditional bilinear filtering. Rounding out its advanced 3-D feature set is hardware-accelerated bump-mapping, which can make a flat texture look like a rough or bumpy surface. The Riva TNT has full support for 2x AGP, including sideband addressing and AGP texturing.

Although the TNT chip sometimes runs a little warm, due in part to its 0.35-micron semiconductor manufacturing process, card vendors couple the chip with a heat sink to ensure against performance issues. The TNT lacks hardware DVD support and motion compensation as well.

The Voodoo Banshee chip found its way into two of the boards in this feature. This processor fuses a high-speed 2-D engine with 3Dfx's popular, gamer-friendly Voodoo2 technology. The Voodoo Banshee also accelerates video scaling and hardware color conversion. And if you're a slave to games written to 3Dfx's GLide API, such as shoot-'em-ups like Unreal, you might favor a Banshee-based card optimized for GLide games.

Banshee does have a few limitations, however. It supports only 1x AGP, and cannot handle AGP texturing or sideband addressing. Unlike the Voodoo2 processor, which has two texture-mapping accelerator chips, Banshee has only one. Consequently, multitexture titles run more slowly than with Voodoo2-based boards. The final limitation is Banshee's inability to render output to anything greater than 16-bit color. All things considered, however, the Voodoo Banshee is a speedy accelerator and manages to integrate a lot of features into a single chip.

COMPUTER SHOPPER Best Buy APRIL 1999

Stoked with 32MB of SDRAM, the **ATI Rage Fury** blasted out the top scores in both our 2-D and 3-D tests. At an average mail-order price of $170, it's a little pricey, but it's a hands-down Best Buy winner for both business and home users.

WORTH NOTING

Honorable mention goes to the **Diamond Viper 550,** a highly polished performer that uses the TNT processor to achieve standout scores. A compelling software bundle makes the Diamond a great choice, even at a relatively expensive average mail-order price of $150.

Also worthy of mention is the **Creative Labs 3D Blaster Banshee,** a no-frills board powered by the Voodoo Banshee chip. It delivers graphics gusto—including native support for the GLide API—at a bargain average mail-order price of $119.

Only one graphics card in this roundup used ATI Technologies' brand-new Rage 128 GL chip. The ATI Rage Fury board arrived on our doorstep as we wrapped up this graphics package, and other variations—the Rage Magnum and the Rage Xpert 128—should be shipping by the time you read this.

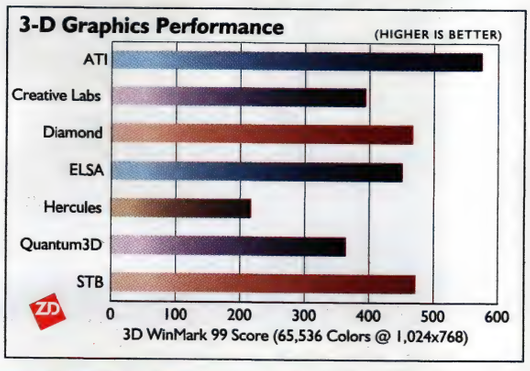
These graphics cards differ primarily in memory configurations and features such as TV out. The Rage 128 GL processor has a maximum video-memory configuration of 32MB.

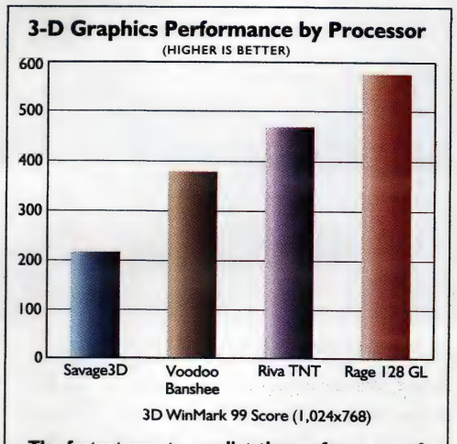
The Rage 128 continues the trend of outfitting a single chip with dual rendering engines. In addition, the Rage 128 is the only one-chip solution to support full DVD acceleration, including motion compensation and MPEG-2 acceleration. This processor also sports a fairly large texture cache, which aids greatly in 32-bit 3-D rendering.

Finally, the only card to opt for S3's Savage3D processor was the Hercules Terminator Beast. The S3-based card eked out the lowest performance scores in both 2-D and 3-D tests. And although it's extremely affordable, the S3 part supports only 8MB of RAM. S3 designed the chip using a proprietary texture-compression technology called S3TC, which lets the card hold more textures in local video memory than might otherwise be possible. The technology doesn't always succeed, however, because some types of bitmap textures don't lend themselves well to compression.

COMPUTER SHOPPER BENCHMARKS — HIGHER SCORES ARE BETTER

	ATI Rage Fury	Creative Labs 3D Blaster Banshee	Diamond Viper V550	ELSA Erazor II	Hercules Terminator Beast	Quantum3D Raven	STB Velocity 4400
3-D GRAPHICS PERFORMANCE							
3D WinMark 99							
65,536 Colors @ 1,024x768	575	394	467	451	217	364	472
2-D GRAPHICS PERFORMANCE							
Business Graphics WinMark 99							
16.8 Million Colors @ 1,024x768	162	146	168	154	100	149	154
GAMING PERFORMANCE							
Incoming							
65,536 Colors @ 1,024x768	36	42	41	40	39	37	40
Quake II							
65,536 Colors @ 1,024x768	32	21	38	36	17	24	38





The fastest way to predict the performance of a graphics card is to check out the chip under the hood. In our tests of seven 2-D/3-D cards, the accelerator based on the Rage 128 GL garnered the top 3D WinMark 99 score, 575. The three cards using the nVidia Riva TNT chip churned out tightly packed scores that averaged 463. Our two Voodoo Banshee-based boards earned an average score of 379, and the Savage3D card turned in a comparatively weak showing of 217.



ATI Rage Fury, Creative Labs 3D Blaster Banshee

GREAT GAMING—AND MORE

Though the technology at the core of these accelerators may be fundamental to understanding performance, users looking to upgrade a graphics card are likely to be more interested in fast, eye-popping gaming. Today's computer games push the edge of the PC performance envelope more than any other single application, and the use of 3-D graphics is no longer limited to action shooters such as Quake II or Unreal. Strategy games such as Myth II use 3-D acceleration, as do racing and flight simulators, and even kids' games such as Lego Island.

These types of titles require fast fill rates, loads of memory for double- and triple-buffering, and swift texture mapping. Add in a little texture blending, and you've got a complex fusion of demands that could easily overwhelm last year's graphics cards.

Another area becoming increasingly important to many users is digital video editing. This capability demands abundant memory. For video previews, it requires acceleration of video operations, including hardware-accelerated scaling in both X and Y axes and hardware color-space conversion. All the cards in this roundup handle these features. Curiously, although they are consumer-level cards, none offers motion compensation or other DVD-oriented features.

Although video imaging and sophisticated games are the primary reasons most users upgrade their graphics cards, we're starting to see compelling business applications that employ 3-D rendering.

HOW WE TESTED

All cards were tested on a 450MHz Pentium II Micron ClientPro with 64MB of SDRAM. The system also had a PCI Ethernet card and a Creative Labs AWE64 sound card.

Tests were conducted with a clean install of Windows 98 and DirectX 6.0. The two primary tests were conducted using WinBench 99 and 3D WinBench 99 from Ziff-Davis Benchmark Operation (ZDBOp). Business graphics performance was measured using WinBench 99's Business Graphics WinMark 99; the Graphics WinMark score was gathered at a resolution of 1,024x768 with the color depth set to 32 bits.

The 3-D feature set and performance were measured using 3D WinMark 99. This test suite has undergone substantial changes from the previous year's version. Most scenes now use DirectX 6 multitexturing. In addition, the scenes have been redesigned to use fewer geometric lights; instead, texture blending is employed to simulate lighting effects, a technique commonly used in today's 3-D accelerated games. The 3D WinMark test was run at 1,024x768 at 65,536 colors, triple-buffered, with the refresh rate set to 85Hz.

Beyond benchmarking, we played two games—Incoming and Quake II—with each board to get a feel for how these cards would perform in the real world. We ran Quake II using the game's built-in time-demo tests, and we chose demo2 for test purposes. Quake II uses OpenGL as its primary gaming API and also employs multitexturing if the card supports it. Direct3D game performance was conducted using Rage Software's Incoming demo. Both games were run at 1,024x768, with the color depth set to 16 bits per pixel. For the game tests, wait-for-vsync was disabled for all cards to avoid artificial frame-rate limits. ▼

Until now, the use of 3-D in business apps has been limited, for the most part, to items such as static 3-D bar charts in Excel or similar kinds of applications.

New tools aim to spice up presentations by adding 3-D animation. For instance, 3-D titling applications such as Simply3D from Micrografx let presenters create static 3-D titles or embed AVI files of animations in presentations. To smooth transitions between slides, CrystalGraphics' 3D Sensations, a plug-in for Microsoft PowerPoint, lets users insert slick 3-D transitions between slides.

More sophisticated 3-D business applications are also becoming popular. Portola Dimensional Systems has developed a set of "business visualization" applications, including Coronado and Fremont SE. Fremont SE embeds static or animated 3-D charts in Excel spreadsheet data. Though this may seem needlessly flashy, it can let users quickly spot trends over time. Similarly, Coronado works with Microsoft BackOffice and enables easier visualization of complex data from SQL databases.

In the near future, the desktop and Web interfaces will use 3-D in a big way. Microsoft is diligently working on GDI 2000, a 3-D interface for Windows that will create a more graphically rich user experience. GDI 2000, which isn't expected to appear in Microsoft products until after Windows 2000 ships, will integrate the graphic driver interface with Direct3D.

For Web browsing, Microsoft is developing a new browser interface called Chromeffects, which will add 3-D capabilities to Web pages. The project was first announced in spring 1998 and was to debut early this year, but Microsoft has kicked it back to the lab for more work. Still, it's likely that something other than simplistic VRML will emerge soon to add 3-D capabilities to your Web browser.

Until then, games will drive the market for 2-D/3-D accelerators. And most gamers will find that one of these seven capable cards delivers a great deal for the money.

ATI RAGE FURY



ATI Technologies' new Rage Fury, with an average mail-order price of $170, was the only card in this roundup to ship with a whopping 32MB of graphics memory. Not only is it an excellent all-around solution, but this board pumps out 2-D and 32-bit 3-D performance second to none.

The Rage Fury draws its power from the Rage 128 GL 2-D/3-D chip, which has been totally redesigned and bears little resemblance to the Rage Pro in previous ATI accelerators. The Rage Fury also has TV-out capability.

The board we reviewed used 32MB of SDRAM and the latest driver release from ATI. The Rage Fury had just begun shipping as we tested, so the drivers were still pretty fresh. The card pumped out a 3D WinMark 99 score of 575, easily the highest in this roundup. Although both 2-D and 3-D performance were excellent in the benchmarks, the board's actual game performance lagged a little behind that of the Riva TNT cards in both Direct3D and OpenGL.

We also noticed some minor image-quality problems in games. For example, there was a noticeable graininess when running 3-D games in 16-bit color; this disappeared when running the same games in 32-bit color, however. ATI said it would fix these problems by the time this issue hits print. We ran Falcon 4.0, Half-Life, and Quake II with the card, and performance was fluid and smooth throughout.

ATI has improved its installation procedure, finally shipping a full setup program rather than relying on the standard Windows method of installing drivers. This can be handy when you have to force the installation of an older driver revision.

Interestingly, the Rage Fury's game performance in 32-bit color lagged behind its 16-bit performance by only a few percentage points. This is in contrast with other chips, which fall off as much as 50 percent in 32-bit color mode.

We did not test ATI's DVD performance, but visual quality of MPEG file playback was fine. ATI ships the card with a software DVD player with algorithms that boost MPEG-2 playback.

ATI bundles three games with the Rage Fury: Expendable, Half-Life Day 1, and Motoracer II.

The Rage Fury is a late third-generation card and something of

(continued on page 230)

Keeping Pace With Graphics Accelerators

New graphics chips are popping up as fast as the little critters in the Whack-a-Mole arcade game. The following is a summary of chips that hit the market while we were preparing this article or that are expected to arrive soon.

MATROX G400

Matrox Graphics is set to unleash a new processor, the G400, by midyear. This 128-bit chip will offer a 256-bit dual-bus architecture, a new 3-D rendering engine, and 4x AGP support. Matrox says it plans to market several 2-D/3-D graphics cards powered by the G400, but details and pricing were sketchy at press time.

NVIDIA TNT 2, NVIDIA VANTA

TNT 2, which may have a new name by the time you read this, will be a 0.25-micron processor supporting up to 32MB of RAM. The Vanta is a 64-bit part targeted squarely at the OEM market. Built on the TNT core, it should offer near-TNT performance at a lower cost.

3DFX VOODOO3

Unlike the Voodoo2, 3Dfx Interactive's Voodoo3 is a single-chip 2-D/3-D solution. It's limited to 16MB of RAM and still cannot accommodate AGP texturing. It's also limited to 16-bit output, though the internal pipeline renders in 32-bit color and dithers down to 16 bits at the final output stage. The company claims that this gives it an effective 22-bit equivalent output, while saving on memory cost and maintaining high frame rates.

The 2-D core should be at least as fast as the Banshee chip's, if not faster. Unlike the Banshee, the Voodoo3 has dual texturing engines and can support 2x AGP. There will be two versions of the Voodoo3: The 2000 model will be a mainstream part, and the Voodoo3 3000 will have a 350MHz DAC and will target hard-core enthusiasts. The Voodoo3 is due in the second quarter of 1999.

3DLABS PERMEDIA 3

The Permedia 3 from 3Dlabs will sport dual texture-mapping engines, but its RAM capacity maxes out at 16MB. The chip will be able to handle hardware bump-mapping. It will also have a sophisticated texture "prefetch" capability. This lets it retrieve a texture map from main memory or video memory, and bring it into the chip before it's actually needed. This will be 3Dlabs' first processor tuned specifically for Microsoft's Direct3D API; it should also continue to offer 3Dlabs' robust support for OpenGL. Look for Permedia 3 cards to begin shipping this month. ▼

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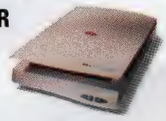


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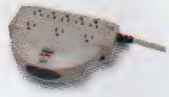


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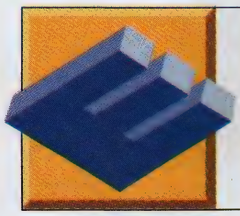
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8290 PRICING

Intel® Pentium® II Processor	15.1" XGA Active Matrix
266MHz	$2375
300MHz	$2445
333MHz	$2645
366MHz	$2795

Features

- 15.1" 1024x768 XGA TFT Display
- 102-key Keyboard with Numeric Keypad
- Intel® Pentium® II Processor
- 256KB On-Die L2 Cache
- 2X AGP 8MB ATI Rage Pro 3D Video
- 64MB SDRAM expandable to 384MB
- Removable 6.0GB Hard Drive (4.0GB or 10.0GB opt.)
- 24X CD-ROM Drive (2X DVD-ROM Drive opt.)

Specifications

- Removable 3.5" 1.44MB FDD exchangeable with opt. LS-120, Iomega Zip Drive, or 2nd HDD
- 3D Surround Sound with Hardware Wavetable
- 2 Built-In Stereo Speakers and 1 Built-In Microphone
- Built-In Touchpad Pointing Device
- 2 Type II or 1 Type III PCMCIA Slots which support ZV-Port and Card Bus
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- Infra Red, Wireless Fast IR Interface
- IEEE 1394 Port
- 2 USB Ports
- TV-Out Port
- Other Ports: 1S, 1P, Ext. Keyboard and Ext. CRT
- Jacks: 1 Line-In, 1 Line-Out and 1 Microphone
- Simultaneous CRT & LCD Display
- Microsoft Windows 98
- Carrying Case and AC Adapter



8250 PRICING

Intel® Celeron™ Processor	15.1" XGA Active Matrix
366MHz	$1995
400MHz	$2095

Features

- 15.1" 1024x768 XGA TFT Display
- 102-key Keyboard with Numeric Keypad
- Intel® Celeron™ Processor
- 128KB On-Die L2 Cache
- 2X AGP 8MB ATI Rage Pro 3D Video
- 64MB SDRAM expandable to 384MB
- Removable 4.0GB Hard Drive (6.0GB or 10.0GB opt.)
- 24X CD-ROM Drive (2X DVD-ROM Drive opt.)

Specifications

- Removable 3.5" 1.44MB FDD exchangeable with opt. LS-120, Iomega Zip Drive, or 2nd HDD
- 3D Surround Sound with Hardware Wavetable
- 2 Built-In Stereo Speakers and 1 Built-In Microphone
- Built-In Touchpad Pointing Device
- 2 Type II or 1 Type III PCMCIA Slots which support ZV-Port and Card Bus
- Smart Lithium-Ion Battery
- Infra Red, Wireless Fast IR Interface
- 2 USB Ports
- TV-Out Port
- Other Ports: 1S, 1P, Ext. Keyboard and Ext. CRT
- Jacks: 1 Line-In, 1 Line-Out and 1 Microphone
- Simultaneous CRT & LCD Display
- Microsoft Windows 98
- Carrying Case and AC Adapter

Options

LS-120 Drive • Iomega Zip Drive • Car Adapter • Port Replicator • Numeric Keypad • PCMCIA Cards (Ethernet and 33.6 Fax / Modem Combo, 33.6 Data / Fax, 56K Data / Fax, Ethernet 10/100 16-Bit, MPEG-II) • Microsoft Windows NT • Please call for options availability, most options are notebook specific.

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6300



6300 PRICING

Intel® Pentium® Processor with MMX™ Technology	12.1" Dual Scan	12.1" SVGA Active Matrix	13.3" XGA Active Matrix
233MHz	$1195	$1345	$1545
266MHz	$1245	$1375	$1575

Features

- 13.3" 1024x768 XGA TFT Display or 12.1" 800x600 SVGA TFT Display or 12.1" Dual Scan Display
- Intel® Pentium® Processor with MMX™ Technology
- 512KB L2 Pipeline-Burst Cache
- 4MB Video SGRAM
- PCI Bus 3D Graphics Accelerator
- 32MB SDRAM expandable to 256MB
- Built-In 2.1GB Hard Drive (4.0GB or 6.0GB opt.)

Specifications

- 24X CD-ROM Drive
- Built-In 3.5" 1.44MB FDD
- 3D Sound Effect
- 2 Built-In Stereo Speakers and 1 Built-In Microphone
- Built-In Touchpad Pointing Device
- 2 Type II or 1 Type III PCMCIA Slots which support ZV-Port and Card Bus
- 1 NiMH Battery (Smart Lithium-Ion Battery opt.)
- Infra Red, Wireless Fast IR Interface
- 1 USB Port
- 1 TV-Out Port
- Other Ports: 1S, 1P, Ext. Keyboard and Ext. CRT
- Jacks: 1 Line-In, 1 Line-Out and 1 Microphone
- Simultaneous CRT & LCD Display
- A4 Size 86-Key Keyboard for Easy Typing
- Microsoft Windows 98
- Carrying Case and AC Adapter



1100 PRICING

Intel® Pentium® II Processor	12.1" SVGA Active Matrix	13.3" XGA Active Matrix	14.1" XGA Active Matrix
266MHz	$1745	$1895	$1945
300MHz	$1875	$2045	$2145
333MHz	$1995	$2195	$2275
366MHz	$2245	$2395	$2495

Features

- 14.1"/ 13.3" 1024x768 XGA TFT Display or 12.1" 800x600 SVGA TFT Display
- Intel® Pentium® II Processor
- 256KB On-Die L2 Cache
- 2X AGP 4MB ATI Rage Pro 3D Video
- 64MB SDRAM expandable to 256MB
- Built-In 4.0GB Hard Drive (6.0GB or 10GB opt.)
- 24X CD-ROM Drive (2X DVD-ROM Drive opt.)

Specifications

- Built-In 3.5" 1.44MB FDD
- 3D Sound Effect
- 2 Built-In Stereo Speakers and 1 Built-In Microphone
- Built-In Touchpad Pointing Device
- 2 Type II or 1 Type III PCMCIA Slots which support ZV-Port and Card Bus
- Smart Lithium-Ion Battery
- Infra Red, Wireless Fast IR Interface
- 1 USB Port
- TV-Out Port
- Other Ports: 1S, 1P, Ext. Keyboard and Ext. CRT
- Jacks: 1 Line-In, 1 Line-Out and 1 Microphone
- A4 Size 86-Key Keyboard for Easy Typing
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(continued from page 225)

FEATURE COMPARISON

For a more detailed listing of features, visit our Web site at computershopper.com.

	ATI Rage Fury	Creative Labs 3D Blaster Banshee	Diamond Viper V550	ELSA Erazor II	Hercules Terminator Beast
Avg. Mail-Order Price	$170	$119	$150	$147	$92
CONFIGURATION					
2-D/3-D Chip	ATI Rage 128 GL	3Dfx Voodoo Banshee	nVidia Riva TNT	nVidia Riva TNT	S3 Savage3D
Installed RAM/Max.*/Type	32MB/32MB/SDRAM	16MB/16MB/SDRAM	16MB/16MB/SDRAM	16MB/16MB SGRAM	8MB/8MB/SGRAM
BIOS Version	1.03	1.01.2	1.93e	2.01.00	2.1B.11.K3D
RAMDAC Clock Rate*	250MHz	250MHz	250MHz	250MHz	250MHz
Windows 98 Driver Version Tested/Date	4.11.6031/12-5-98	4.10.01.0105-2-224/ 11-11-98	4.10.01.0239/ 11-10-98	4.10.01.0100-0003/ 11-15-98	4.10.02.4003-6.11.02/ 12-11-98
AGP Level/Texturing (AGP or Local)	2x/AGP	1x/local	2x/AGP	2x/AGP	2x/AGP
Supports AGP Pipelining/Sideband Addressing	Yes/yes	No/no	Yes/yes	Yes/yes	Yes/yes
Connectors on I/O Bracket	15-pin VGA, composite, S-Video out	15-pin VGA	15-pin VGA, S-Video out (mini-DIN), composite video out via adapter cable	15-pin VGA	15-pin VGA, composite video out (RCA), S-Video out (mini-DIN)
Internal Connectors	AMC 2.0, VGA feature connector	VGA feature connector	VGA feature connector	VGA feature connector	VGA feature connector
Outputs to TV	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Available Options	None	None	Diamond DTV Tuner, $129.95	None	None
GRAPHICS MODES*					
Maximum Noninterlaced Resolution Mode	1,920x1,200 with 16.7M at 80Hz	1,920x1,200 with 16.7M at 72Hz	1,920x1,200 with 16.7M at 85Hz	1,920x1,200 with 65K at 75Hz	1,600x1,200 with 65K at 85Hz
Maximum True-Color Mode	1,920x1,200 at 80Hz	1,900x1,200 at 60Hz	1,920x1,200 at 85Hz	1,600x1,200 at 60Hz	1,280x1,024 at 100Hz
Maximum Refresh Rate (Hz) at:					
1,024x768 with 16.7M	200	120	170	120	110
1,280x1,024 with 65K	130	120	120	100	110
Windows 95 Display Utilities					
Set Refresh Rate	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Systray Popup	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Other	3-D acceleration mode setting	Blaster control panel for 3-D control	Right-click on desktop for Start menu	None	None
SOFTWARE INCLUDED					
Direct3D Games	Expendable, Motoracer II, Half-Life Day 1	None	Motorhead	Recoil, D3D game sampler disc	Starfleet Academy Strategic Command
Other Applications	None	Colorific, 3Deep	Fremont SE, 3D Sensations, Platinum VR Creator, VR Creator, DVD Player	None	trueSpace3, Micrografx Picture Publisher, WorldView VRML browser
Miscellaneous Utilities	None	None	InControl	None	None
SERVICE AND SUPPORT*					
Standard Warranty (Parts and Labor)	Five years	Six years	Five years	Three years	Five years
Toll-Free Technical Support	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Live Tech-Support Hours (ET)	9 a.m. to 7 p.m. M-F	7 a.m. to 1 a.m. M-F	8 a.m. to 10 p.m. M-F, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sa	Noon to 7:30 p.m. M-F	9 a.m. to 9 p.m. M-F
Online Tech Support	CompuServe, Web	CompuServe, Web	America Online, CompuServe, Backweb, Web	CompuServe, Web	CompuServe, Web

*According to vendor or manufacturer

a harbinger of boards to come. With 32MB of RAM, and excellent 2-D and 3-D performance—especially in 32-bit mode—the Rage Fury is a great choice for both business and home.

CREATIVE LABS 3D BLASTER BANSHEE

Creative Labs' 3D Blaster Banshee is a no-frills product that delivers middle-of-the-road performance. And it has a tempting average mail-order price of $119.

Installation of the 3D Blaster Banshee was simple. The Banshee control-panel tab appears on the display control-panel applet, offering sliders that adjust the board's clock-rate and memory wait states. The clock-rate slider can be a little dangerous, however: Increase the clock speed too much, and you could risk overheating the chip. And although the memory-refresh slider probably won't damage the card, adjusting it too aggressively could result in a severely garbled Windows display. The only way to fix this problem afterward is to boot in safe mode and reinstall the driver.

The 3D Blaster Banshee is slightly larger than the other cards in this roundup. That's because Creative builds its circuit boards a bit larger to spread out the components, which keeps the card cooler without the use of a fan.



Diamond Viper V550, ELSA Erazor II, Hercules Terminator Beast

The 3D Blaster Banshee's performance trailed that of the TNT boards on almost all the tests except the Incoming game test, on which it took the top score. The Banshee's lack of multitexture support undoubtedly contributed to its anemic performance. The chip, on the other hand, supports titles that use 3Dfx's GLide API for acceleration.

The only bundled software is a set of Sonnetech color-matching tools,

Quantum3D Raven	STB Velocity 4400
$136	$137
3Dfx Voodoo Banshee	nVidia Riva TNT
16MB/16MB/SDRAM	16MB/16MB/SDRAM
1.00.01.SD	1.1
250MHz	250MHz
4.10.01-0225-1.00/ 11-13-98	4.10.01.0142/ 11-11-98
1x/local	2x/AGP
No/no	Yes/yes
15-pin VGA, stereo (mini-DIN)	15-pin VGA, composite video out (RCA), S-video out (mini-DIN)
None	VGA feature connector
No	Yes
None	None
1,900x1,440 with 16.7M at 60Hz	1,920x1,200 with 16.7M at 60Hz
1,900x1,440 at 60Hz	1,920x1,200 at 60Hz
120	120
120	85
Yes	Yes
No	Yes
None	None
NFL Blitz, GEX: Enter the Gecko, Rush the Rock: San Francisco Edition	Forsaken
None	Digital Video Producer, Web 3D, 3D Sensations, 3Deep
None	None
Three years	Lifetime
Yes	Yes
Noon to 8 p.m. M-F	10 a.m. to 9 p.m. M, Tu, Th, F; 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. W
Web	America Online, CompuServe, Web

Colorific and 3Deep. Colorific helps you calibrate color during driver installation. It relies on a series of cumbersome subjective questions, but the result is excellent, yielding more vibrant color images. The second tool, 3Deep, helps the user set the gamma values in 3-D games. Unfortunately, few games support 3Deep, though Colorific is working to change that.

If you're looking for a solid performer at a great price and you play a lot of games that use 3Dfx's GLide API, put the 3D Blaster Banshee on your short list.

DIAMOND VIPER V550

Diamond Multimedia's Viper V550, based on the Riva TNT chip, is a highly polished performer. This card brought home the best scores overall on our tests, and includes compelling software for business users and gamers alike, all at an average mail-order price of $150.

Installation was a snap, and the included Diamond InControl Tools is one of the handiest tool packages supplied by any of the graphics-card manufacturers. However, its Tweak control panel, which lets you alter some of the 3-D rendering behavior, was more limited than those of other TNT cards.

Diamond has always excelled with its 2-D graphics drivers, and the Viper V550 is no exception. The Viper V550 pumped out the highest 2-D score of the roundup and tied for second in 3-D performance. We used the card extensively while playing Quake II and Motorhead, an arcade-style car-racing game that can run at resolutions of up to 1,600x1,200. We encountered no instability or lockups during testing.

The card comes with an interesting software bundle. Motorhead does a great job of exploiting the features of the TNT chip, supporting true-color modes, triple buffering, and other eye-candy features. Diamond also includes Fremont SE, the data-visualization tool from Portola Dimensional Systems, as well as a limited version of CrystalGraphics' 3D Sensations PowerPoint plug-in. Additionally, you'll find Platinum VR Creator, a limited-edition VRML-editing program, and a software DVD player. All in all, it's a pretty good software package that makes the Viper a good choice for business users as well as gamers.

The retail version of the Viper V550 ships with TV-out capability, which exhibited a reasonably good quality image on our test monitor. Diamond also offers a generous five-year warranty.

All in all, the Viper V550 is a lightning-fast, rock-solid card. Although it's a little pricey, the software bundle makes this a strong contender for business users—or just about anyone looking for awesome 2-D and 3-D graphics performance.

ELSA ERAZOR II

With an average mail-order price of $147, the ELSA Erazor II represents good value among Riva TNT boards in this roundup. It turned in solid performance, although we had to overcome some serious driver and installation problems first.

Installing the Erazor II was a challenge. As with other cards, the New Hardware wizard popped up when we booted the system after installation. But when we pointed the wizard to the directory containing the original Erazor drivers, the wizard did not recognize them, despite the existence of a normal-looking INF file. We were able to install the drivers manually. We later downloaded a new BIOS and driver set for the card from ELSA's Web site, then reinstalled them from a clean Windows 98 installation. This somewhat complicated procedure solved the problem, although it might confuse inexperienced users.

The custom control panel supplied with the Erazor II sports a robust array of features, including the ability to tweak many of the 3-D settings. Organization of the controls was haphazard, however, and the wording describing the settings was confusing.

Of the three TNT boards, the Erazor II is probably the most basic. It offers no TV out and has a lightweight software bundle. Interestingly, ELSA outfits the Erazor II with 16MB of SGRAM rather than SDRAM, which could yield somewhat higher performance than SDRAM-based boards. The Erazor II trailed behind the other TNTs, however, but still outclassed the Banshee- and S3-equipped cards. It handled games with aplomb, yielding particularly pleasing results in Quake II.

The Erazor II locked up on the high-resolution antialiasing test in 3D WinMark 99. It also exhibited evidence of an "off-by-one" error in the MIP-mapping quality tests. This resulted in a faint outline of the borders of the MIP maps when comparing the results to the good image in the 3D WinMark test. Although we found the MIP-mapping capabilities to be passable, the Erazor's drivers could use improvement.

The software bundle consists of one full game, Recoil, plus a demo sampler CD of 20 games.

If you're looking for TNT horsepower on a budget, the Erazor II may be a good choice. You'd be wise to check for updated drivers first, however.

HERCULES TERMINATOR BEAST

Hercules Computer Technology's Terminator Beast, with an average mail-order price of $92, is the lowest-price card we examined. But it proved the adage that you get what you pay for by turning in performance that trailed that of all the other cards in this roundup.

Its lagging performance is probably due to the fact that the S3 Savage3D chip used in the Beast accommodates a maximum of 8MB of local video memory. This limits the maximum true-color 2-D resolution to 1,280x1,024; however, its 250MHz RAMDAC does allow for high refresh rates at all resolutions.

Installation of the card was easy enough. The Hercules control panel is fairly straightforward, and unlike other cards, this one lets you test refresh-rate settings. Moreover, the company has improved the BIOS and the driver set from previous models, resulting in a much more civilized Beast. The card's control panel has a checkbox for autocompression that lets the card compress textures on a Direct3D title the first time it is run and store them on the hard drive. This technique might make the game run faster, but you might also see image-quality degradation with some titles. In our test, however, we noticed no difference in performance with this checkbox on or off.

On almost every test, the Beast delivered the slowest performance among the seven cards reviewed here, although

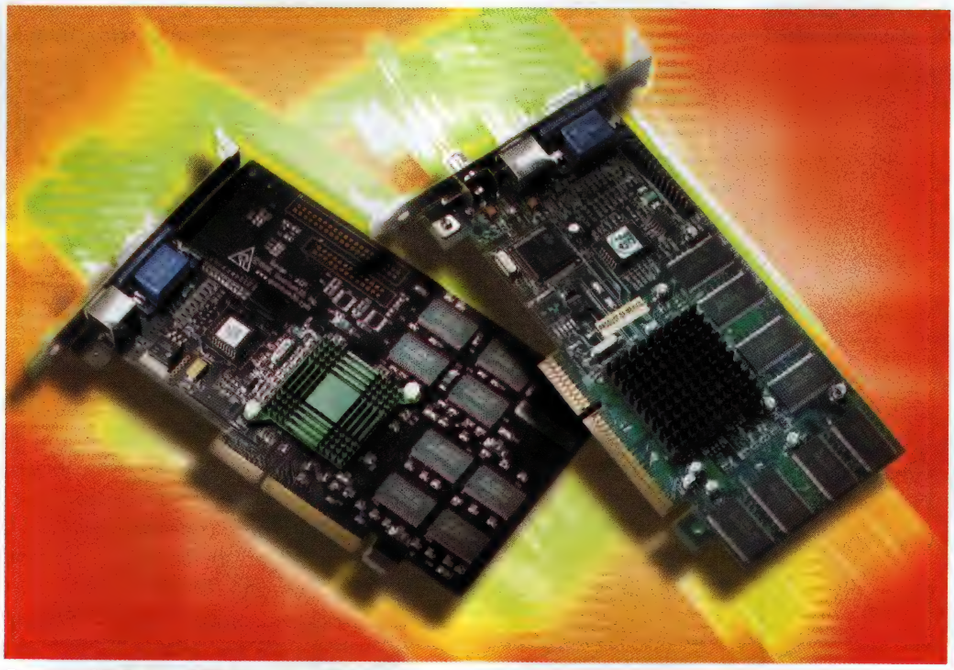
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it did keep pace nicely on Incoming. While playing Quake II, we found that the game would periodically lock up.

The TV-out feature worked well, with image quality on a par with that of the other cards in the round-up that offer TV-out capabilities.

Hercules bundles two games with the Beast, Starfleet Academy and Strategic Command. It also includes several other applications such as Picture Publisher, trueSpace 3, and the WorldView VRML browser.

It's difficult to recommend the Hercules Terminator Beast, except for those on the tightest of budgets. Its 2-D and 3-D performance are lacking, and the 8MB memory limit pales against the plethora of 16MB cards available.



Quantum3D Raven, STB Velocity 4400

QUANTUM3D RAVEN

Quantum3D's Raven, based on the Voodoo Banshee chip, pumped out solid 2-D performance, but fell below par in 3-D testing. Its decent game software bundle and average mail-order price of $136 make it a good deal for those on a budget, however.

Installation of the Raven went without a hitch. Its control-panel utilities are nearly identical to those supplied with 3Dfx reference drivers and permit a fair amount of tweaking. Unlike the Creative Labs 3D Blaster Banshee, the other Banshee-based card in this roundup, the Quantum3D Raven lacks a clock-rate or a memory-refresh slider in its drivers. This is probably a safer approach.

The Raven's performance is similar to that of its Voodoo-based counterpart, although it's slightly faster in OpenGL and a bit slower in Direct3D apps. In short, overall performance was a notch below that of the Riva TNT boards.

This card also has some compatibility problems with a number of Direct3D and 3Dfx GLide titles. It's likely that by the time you read this, however, game developers and Quantum3D will have posted patches or driver releases that fix most of these issues.

One interesting feature is the Raven's support for a connection for LCD shutter glasses. These glasses simulate a 3-D image on the computer screen in compatible games, giving a sometimes-exaggerated sense of depth.

The unique game bundle is one of the best we've seen, comprising three games from Midway Home Entertainment. NFL Blitz is an arcade-style football game that's a great deal of fun, provided you're not reflex-impaired. Quantum3D also includes a version of GEX, a 3-D platform action game, and a limited edition of Rush the Rock, an arcade racer.

The Raven is an interesting choice for those seeking a low-cost card solution and a good game bundle. It delivers decent performance at a great price.

STB VELOCITY 4400

Based on the Riva TNT chip, STB Systems' Velocity 4400 is a good choice, thanks to its TV-out capability and a terrific tweak panel for gamers who like to play with their 3-D hardware. And it delivers top-flight performance for its average mail-order price of $137.

A lot of similarities exist between the Velocity 4400 and the Diamond Viper V550. Both have TV out, although the STB has two discrete connectors for it; the Viper has an adapter for connecting the S-Video output to a composite monitor. They are both compact cards with 16MB of SDRAM.

The Velocity 4400 installed easily into a free AGP slot. Its Tweak control panel is way cool, letting you change a host of 3-D parameters, any of which can affect compatibility and performance positively or negatively. If you have a problem with a 3-D title, a trip to the STB Tweak panel might just fix the problem.

The card achieved mostly above-average results on the tests, scoring in the top tier in 3D WinMark 99 and excelling in Quake II, like the other TNT boards. The Velocity 4400's TV-out capability works fairly well.

STB has assembled an interesting software bundle, including an exclusive version of the action game Forsaken that supports 32-bit color. Also included are a couple of Asymetrix titles—Digital Video Producer and Web3D—and a limited edition of 3D Sensations. STB also bundles a version of Colorific's 3Deep gamma-adjustment control. Unlike any other vendor in this roundup, STB offers a lifetime warranty on the Velocity 4400.

With its nifty STB Tweak panel and its good software bundle, the Velocity 4400 may be just the ticket for consumers looking for a high-performance card. And at $137, the price is right.

PICK A CARD

Choosing the right graphics accelerator can be a tough game. With the advanced technology of today's new boards, which adds to both features and performance, the decision becomes even more challenging.

First and foremost, consider your specific needs. If you're primarily interested in gaming, but also need 2-D acceleration, most of these cards are a fine choice. Just make sure you've got an available AGP slot and look for third-generation processors, 16MB of graphics RAM, and a good software bundle. ▼

PRODUCT	ATI Rage Fury
COMPANY	ATI Technologies
Best Buy	Thornhill, ON, Canada; 905-882-2600
	www.atitech.com
AVG. MAIL-ORDER PRICE	$170

PRODUCT	Creative Labs 3D Blaster Banshee
COMPANY	Creative Labs
	Milpitas, CA; 800-998-1000, 408-428-6600
	www.creativelabs.com
AVG. MAIL-ORDER PRICE	$119

PRODUCT	Diamond Viper V550
COMPANY	Diamond Multimedia
	San Jose, CA; 800-468-5846, 408-325-7000
	www.diamondmm.com
AVG. MAIL-ORDER PRICE	$150

PRODUCT	ELSA Erazor II
COMPANY	ELSA
	Santa Clara, CA; 800-272-3572, 408-919-9100
	www.elsa.com
AVG. MAIL-ORDER PRICE	$147

PRODUCT	Hercules Terminator Beast
COMPANY	Hercules Computer Technology
	Fremont, CA; 800-532-0600, 510-623-6030
	www.hercules.com
AVG. MAIL-ORDER PRICE	$92

PRODUCT	Quantum3D Raven
COMPANY	Quantum3D
	Santa Clara, CA; 888-747-1020, 408-919-9999
	www.quantum3d.com
AVG. MAIL-ORDER PRICE	$136

PRODUCT	STB Velocity 4400
COMPANY	STB Systems
	Richardson, TX; 888-234-8750
	www.stb.com
AVG. MAIL-ORDER PRICE	$137

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IOMEGA ZIP 250

Zipping Up to 250MB

During the last few years, scores of Windows and Macintosh users have come to rely on Iomega Corp.'s Zip drive for storing large files. For many Zip owners, however, the sturdy 100MB cartridges just don't seem as spacious as they used to. But the new Iomega Zip 250 provides some much-needed leg room with 2.5 times the storage capacity of the original Zip.

To gain the additional storage space, Iomega redesigned the drive's write head and created a new magnetic formulation. Fortunately for previous Zip users, the Zip 250 can also read and write to 100MB cartridges.

We reviewed the external parallel-port version of the drive, which sells for $199.95 estimated. An external SCSI version is also available at the same price (SCSI adapter card not included), and an internal ATAPI drive is expected to ship later this year. The 250MB cartridges individually sell for $19.95 estimated and cost slightly less than $17 each when bought in six-packs.

Connecting the drive to our 233MHz MMX Pentium testbed with 32MB of RAM took only minutes under Windows 98. Iomega claims the Zip 250 has a data-transfer rate that's 1.6 times faster than that of the original, but the new drive achieved an average data-transfer rate of only 62.2K/sec on the Removable Media Test in ZD's WinBench 99 benchmark suite. In comparison, the test system's hard drive had an average score of 1,230K/sec on the same test. This is partly due to the inherent sluggishness of the parallel port. You can expect faster performance from the ATAPI and SCSI models. The Zip 250 fared considerably better when the process was reversed; it required only 15 seconds to copy 6.2MB of data (16 files) from the hard drive.

Like its predecessor, the Zip 250 has a stylishly sculpted blue case that measures about 1.5x5.5x7 inches (HWD). The review unit came with a 3-foot parallel cable and a pass-through connector that lets the drive coexist with a printer on a PC's parallel port. Its software bundle includes RecordIt, an audio recorder/player; Iomega Tools, a collection of disk utilities; Guest, a utility that lets you share the drive with other PCs; Copy-Machine, a Zip-disk copy utility; and Norton Zip Rescue, which lets you create a backup of your PC's startup files and Registry data on a Zip disk.



Today's large graphics and multimedia files may have found a new home with the Zip's 250MB capacity.

Although the CD-Recordable format still has the edge in terms of economy and universality, the Zip 250's increased storage capacity and reverse compatibility with its 100MB predecessor should prove to be a winning combination with most Zip fans. ***—Matthew Klare***

COMPANY	Iomega Corp. Roy, UT; 800-697-8833 www.iomega.com
PRODUCT	Iomega Zip 250
SUPPORT	Automated toll-free phone support; live toll-free phone support for 30 days after first call if drive is defective or for $14.99 per incident; 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekdays, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sat. (MT); one-year warranty
SUITABILITY	Ideal for SOHO and home users looking for additional storage space; graphics professionals will want to stick with higher-capacity drives
REQUIRES	Windows: 486 or faster; 8MB RAM; 30MB hard drive space; 2x CD-ROM drive; Windows 3.x, Windows 95, Windows 98, or Windows NT 3.51. Macintosh: Power Mac; 16MB RAM; 8x CD-ROM drive; sound card; Mac OS 7.5 or later
MFR. EST. PRICE	$199.95

ADAPTEC VIDEOH

Video Capture Made Easy

If you're seeking to bridge the gap between your computer and your camcorder, Adaptec's VideOh can help. This $299-list device captures high-quality MPEG-1 video and still images, and is a breeze to set up.

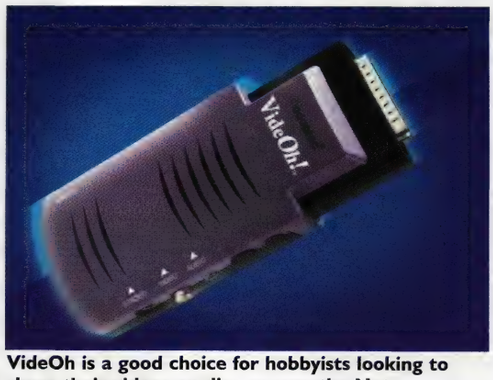
VideOh is in fact version 2 of FutureTel's highly regarded Video Sphinx encoder, now exclusively distributed through Adaptec. The checkbook-size device attaches to your computer's ECP parallel port, which eliminates the need for a PCI capture card and lets it be used on most new laptops.

The unit has inputs for both S-Video and composite video, and a stereo audio source. Audio is captured in hardware for improved synchronization. Still-image and video-capture operations are controlled by Adaptec's ClipView software, which uses simple VCR-like commands. ClipView lets you preview the incoming video and provides controls for adjusting hue, saturation, contrast, brightness, and audio volume. Also included in the package is Adaptec's Easy CD Creator Deluxe edition for storing videos to CD-R or CD-RW, Macromedia's Backstage Web-development software, and MetaCreations' Kai's Photo Soap for editing still images.

Capture resolutions include both quarter-screen and postage-stamp-size videos at data rates ranging from 1.5MB per minute—suitable for distribution on the Web—to about 20MB per minute for high-quality desktop video. Still images can be captured at resolutions of up to 1,600x1,200 and saved as BMP, JPEG, PCX, or TIF files.

After video capture, you trim unwanted frames in ClipView's Trim panel and connect clips using the ClipGlue module. ClipGlue also lets you insert titles at the beginning of your videos, and fade in or out—both simple but useful functions. Other modules include video e-mail and MediaShow, which sequences still images and videos into simple presentations.

We tested VideOh with a variety of footage, from talking heads to highly detailed motion. Overall, we were impressed with the video quality, which came through with minimal noise and clear, perfectly synchronized audio—even on clips up to 20 minutes long.



VideOh is a good choice for hobbyists looking to share their videos on disc or over the Net.

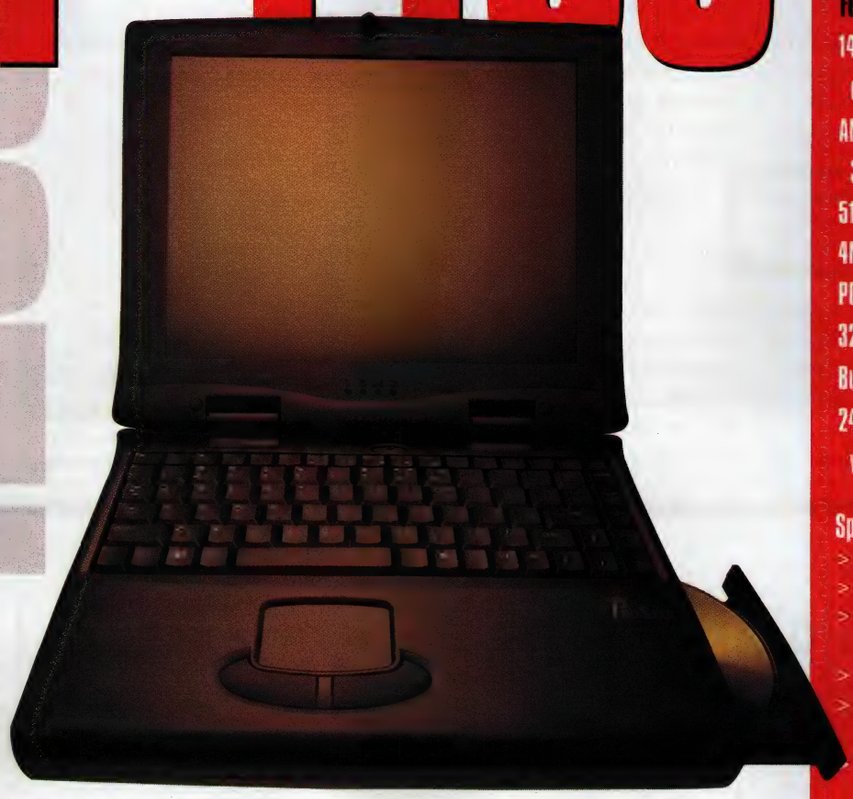
Captured still images generally exhibited fine detail and good color quality, although images captured from high-motion video clips showed some slight blurring. This was probably due to VideOh's so-so antialiasing filters. Still-image quality peaked at 640x480, which is more than sufficient for Web use, and appeared slightly pixilated at 1,600x1,200.

MPEG-1 playback is ubiquitous on Windows, Macintosh, and Unix platforms, making it an ideal format for presentations or Web distribution. Factor in VideOh's impressive software bundle and still-image capture capabilities, and you have a solid offering for professionals and video enthusiasts. ***—Jan Ozer***

COMPANY	Adaptec Milpitas, CA; 800-442-7274, 408-945-8600 www.adaptec.com
PRODUCT	Adaptec VideOh
SUPPORT	Live phone support, 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays (PT); one-year warranty
SUITABILITY	Video enthusiasts looking for an easy-to-use desktop video solution
REQUIRES	133MHz Pentium; 21MB hard drive space; ECP parallel port; video source; Windows 95 or Windows 98
LIST PRICE	$299

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- 1 USB Port
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LEXMARK PHOTO JETPRINTER 5770

Printing Without a PC

Although the personal computer is far from being obsolete, an increasing number of peripherals let you perform computer-related chores without a PC. One recent example is Lexmark International's $350-estimated Lexmark Photo Jetprinter 5770.

The 5770 accomplishes this feat by accepting CompactFlash or SmartMedia memory cards in either of the two slots on its front panel, or by letting you connect a Zip drive directly to its parallel port. A small control panel and an LCD give you a few cropping options and limited access to stored images.

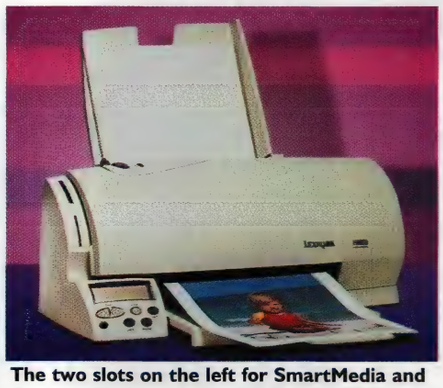
Computer Shopper Best Buy APRIL 1999

The **Lexmark Photo Jetprinter 5770** offers superior photo-quality printing with the option of bypassing your PC.

We had no trouble connecting the 5770 to our 400MHz Pentium II testbed system—although we had to provide our own parallel-port cable, which adds about $25 to the total. Lexmark recommends the use of an IEEE 1284-compliant cable. The 5770 supports a maximum resolution of 1,200x1,200 dpi and offers the 600-dpi Quick mode for slightly faster printing of draft-quality samples.

Testing revealed the printer's strength to be print quality rather than print speed. On all the tests, the best results were considerably slower than Lexmark's ratings. In 600-dpi Quick mode, the 12-page Microsoft Word test document printed at a rate of 4.4 ppm. The single-page Microsoft Publisher file took 59 seconds (1 ppm) to print in 600-dpi Normal mode, and the test photo took 6 minutes and 57 seconds (0.14 ppm) at 600 dpi. Lexmark rates the 5770 at 8 ppm and 4 ppm for black-text and color documents, respectively; no rating is provided for photo printing.

If you're not in a hurry, the 5770 produces exceptional output. At 1,200 dpi, the test photo had true photographic quality. At both 600-dpi Normal and 1,200-dpi modes, the 5570's text and graphics quality were comparable to a laser printer's. The 5770 ships with one color and one photo ink cartridge; replacements cost $38.95 and $39.99, respectively. The color cartridge is rated to last for 200 pages, at a consumable cost of 18 cents per page for color printing. No rating was provided for the photo cartridge, but the review sample lasted for approximately 17 full-page, high-resolution 8.5x11-inch photos over the course of the tests. Factor in $12.50 for 20 sheets of Lexmark photo paper, and printing photos of this size costs almost $3 per page. A black-ink cartridge costs an additional $32.95 and is rated to last for 600 pages at 5 cents per page.



The two slots on the left for SmartMedia and CompactFlash cards provide PC-free printing.

The 5770 can print on cards, labels, transparencies, and iron-on transfers. Its paper tray holds up to 100 sheets of paper or 10 envelopes.

Clearly, the 5770 makes it easy to transfer digital information into images. Although we didn't achieve the speed ratings quoted by the company, the output quality was excellent. If you can forgo the PC-free operation, Lexmark's Photo Jetprinter 5700 offers comparable features for about $100 less.

—Daniel A. Begun

COMPANY .....Lexmark International
Lexington, KY; 800-539-6275, 606-232-2000
www.lexmark.com
PRODUCT .....Lexmark Photo Jetprinter 5770
SUPPORT .....Live toll-free phone support, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekdays, noon to 6 p.m. weekends (ET); BBS; one-year next-business-day-exchange warranty
SUITABILITY .....Excellent output and the ability to print images directly from CompactFlash and SmartMedia cards make the 5770 perfectly suitable for photo printing
REQUIRES .....Pentium or faster; 20MB hard drive space; parallel-port cable (IEEE 1284 recommended); Windows 3.1, Windows 95, Windows 98, or Windows NT
MFR. EST. PRICE $350

OPTIQUEST L700

A Better Point of View

Optiquest's L700 represents yet another small step in the slow but steady march of LCDs toward the mainstream desktop. Its $979-estimated price is still significantly more expensive than a 17-inch CRT monitor's, but slightly below many competing 15-inch analog LCDs. Nevertheless, the L700 manages to hit this lower price point without cutting corners.

The display has a 15.1-inch screen size with a maximum 1,024x768 resolution. It offers an impressive 200-to-1 contrast ratio and other desirable features, including a very acceptable 200-nit brightness rating, wide 120-degree horizontal/90-degree vertical viewing angles, and a factory-replaceable lamp with a lifetime rating of 20,000 hours (roughly 2.3 years when running nonstop). Moreover, its power consumption is rated at 40 watts/hour in its maximum mode (5 watts/hour in powered-down mode)—about half the power required for an equivalent 15-inch CRT monitor.

Using DisplayMate's test suite, the L700 did well at its top 1,024x768 resolution. Focus was notably sharp, displaying even the smallest details, and text was easily readable down to 5.4-point size. In addition to its solid color registration and essentially perfect geometry, the L700 offered acceptable color saturation. This monitor didn't reveal even a hint of ghosting (streaking or artifacts that show up to the right of static images) on test screens designed to show this common LCD problem.

We did notice a fair amount of jittering in some moiré test screens, which we were able to reduce using the Clock and Clock Phase adjustments in the onscreen menus. We were unable to eliminate it completely, but we didn't notice any jitter in our real-world tests with business applications or photos.

The display is capable of scaling 640x480 and 800x600 images to full screen. The scaling algorithm does a good job at 640x480, but at 800x600, the text gets a bit blurry. Our review sample did not have any dead pixels, but Optiquest will automatically replace any monitor with two adjacent dead pixels or six dead pixels in total.



Optiquest's first LCD, the L700, is low in price without compromising quality.

Including its stand, the L700 weighs 12.2 pounds and measures 14.4x15.3x7.2 inches (HWD)—small enough to fit along with a standard-size keyboard on a typing table 15 inches deep. The display also meets all of the current monitor standards, including MPR II, TCO 95, Energy Star, VESA DPMS, Plug and Play, and Energy 2000.

With its three-year limited warranty, including one year for the backlight, the Optiquest L700 can be a viable alternative to a 17-inch CRT for users with meaty budgets or with an absolute need to conserve desktop space.

—M. David Stone

COMPANY .....Optiquest
Walnut, CA; 800-843-6784, 909-869-9216
www.optiquest.com
PRODUCT .....Optiquest L700
SUPPORT .....Live toll-free phone support, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekdays (ET); three-year limited warranty (one year for the backlight)
SUITABILITY .....A good choice for high-end users with limited desk space
MFR. EST. PRICE $979

SECTION CONTINUES ON PAGE 240

MIDWEST MICRO

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1982 — Pac Man Fever was sweeping the nation, Prince was topping the charts with a futuristic ditty about the year 1999...and computer companies were popping up everywhere you looked.

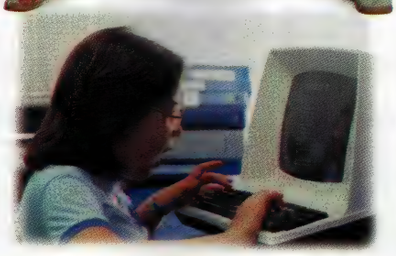
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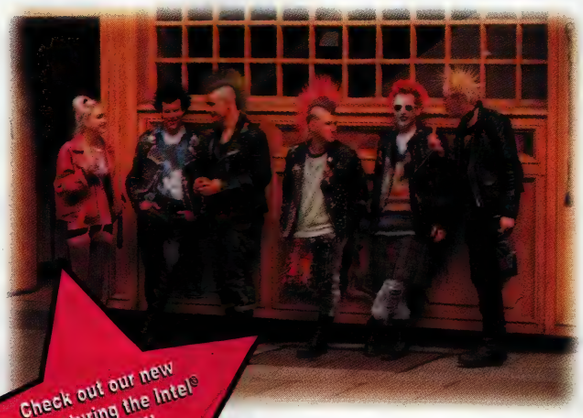












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#025527 **$1149**

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#025578 **$1439**

Business Lease $54/mo. (36 months)

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#025581 **$2029**

Business Lease $78/mo. (36 months)

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- 1926 Monitor (18" display)
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LOGITECH MARBLE MOUSE

A Marble-ous Idea

Give your wrist a rest and let your fingers do the walking with Logitech's Marble Mouse, an input device that looks like a mouse but works like a trackball. The $39.95-estimated Marble Mouse is a solid performer, and a sensible choice for desktop users with tight space, for notebook users, or for people merely looking to change their mouse habits. And because it's completely symmetrical, it is equally well-suited for both right- and left-handed users.

The Marble Mouse uses the same optical-sensing technology as Logitech's popular TrackMan Marble series. A large red marble nestles in a cavity near the back of the unit. The sphere is speckled with tiny black dots, which are read by an optical sensor at the base of the cavity. The marble moves freely in all directions, as if floating on air, providing fast and effortless cursor movement. Since it operates like a trackball, your wrist doesn't move, but your index and middle fingers get quite a workout.

The mouse-shaped device measures 1.7x3.4x6.5 inches (HWD) and comes with a generous 5.5-foot cord. The unit ships with a 9-pin serial adapter for its default PS/2-mouse-port plug. Surprisingly, Logitech neglects to include drivers for mouse functions, so you'll have to use standard Windows drivers or download Logitech's MouseWare drivers from the company's Web site. It's a moot point anyway, since the extent of the device's programmability is simple chording; you press both buttons to simulate double-clicking on a mouse. Otherwise, operating the Marble Mouse is straightforward.

If your computer has multiple input ports, you can use the Marble Mouse in conjunction with your regular mouse. Switching between the two devices isn't an ideal solution, but it may be helpful if you're used to the scroll-wheel feature found on many newer mice.

At its default setting, the Marble Mouse tracks well, traversing the entire width of the screen per inch of marble movement. The speed can be adjusted through the software—an important feature for graphics professionals, who require precise movement. In our experience, however, the device often undershot or overshot the target.



Proportionately equal on both sides, Logitech's Marble Mouse is for right- and left-handed users.

COMPANY .....Logitech
Fremont, CA; 800-231-7717
www.logitech.com
PRODUCT .....Logitech Marble Mouse
SUPPORT ...Automated toll-free phone support; live phone support, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. weekdays (PT); Web; three-year limited warranty
SUITABILITY .....A sleek, ergonomic alternative to conventional mice for right- and left-handed users willing to sacrifice some functionality
REQUIRES .....PS/2-mouse or serial port; Windows 3.x, Windows 95, Windows 98, or Windows NT 4.0
MFR. EST. PRICE $39.95

The Marble Mouse is a comfortable alternative to a traditional mouse. Its sleek styling and stationary operation are sure to please users with strong ergonomic preferences. Nevertheless, the product's limitations may be frustrating to users accustomed to input devices with more functionality. Our advice: Try before you buy.

—Scott A. May

ACERSCAN PRISA 620P

Pretty Swift Scanning

Speed is an important criterion for nearly every PC-related device, and scanners are no exception. The $99-estimated AcerScan Prisa 620P from Acer Peripherals is a 36-bit, 600x1,200-dpi flatbed scanner and one of the fastest units we've seen at this price point.

The Prisa uses a standard parallel-port interface, and it supports EPP/ECP. These BIOS-level settings enable faster data transfer than a standard parallel-port interface—up to about 1MB/sec. A pass-through port is also provided for daisy-chaining a printer or other parallel-port device.

We tested the Prisa on a 200MHz Pentium-based system with 32MB of RAM. Setup was simple, but installing the software was a process. Although the CD-ROM containing the drivers and bundled software started up automatically, we had to individually install each of the programs—MiraScan, a TWAIN-compliant driver; iPhotoPlus 4 image-editing software; Xerox TextBridge Classic OCR software; and Microsoft Internet Explorer—which took about 20 minutes. A unified installer would have made this process much easier.

The Prisa is a fast, nimble performer. A full-page Microsoft Word document scanned at 300 dpi took an average of just 19 seconds, and converting it using the TextBridge OCR software took just 15 seconds. Of the 25 errors we found, many were duplicates and easy to correct. However, we expect better accuracy from today's OCR packages.

Scanning in our test newsletter document at 300 dpi yielded similar results, requiring an average of 18 seconds to scan and 17 seconds to convert. In our two-column, heavily formatted document, we found 28 errors.

Scanning our full-color, 8.5x11-inch photo at 600 dpi took an average of 2 minutes and 10 seconds. The included image-editing software, iPhotoPlus, provides a full complement of controls as well as icon groups that lead you through the editing process—from scanning the image into the software to adjusting and enhancing the image, to choosing one of several delivery options.



The AcerScan Prisa presents you with a scanned document in a snap, but check for conversion errors.

COMPANY .....Acer Peripherals
San Jose, CA; 800-379-2237, 408-432-6200
www.acerperipherals.com
PRODUCT .....AcerScan Prisa 620P
SUPPORT .....Live toll-free 24-hour-daily phone support for one year; one-year parts-and-labor warranty
SUITABILITY .....A good choice for home and small-business users looking for a fast and inexpensive flatbed scanner
REQUIRES ....486 or faster; 8MB RAM; parallel port; Windows 3.x, Windows 95, or Windows 98
MFR. EST. PRICE $99

The Prisa is equipped with an on/off switch that conserves power while extending the life of the scanning lamp. The scanner's printed documentation is thorough and well-designed, and we found the context-specific online help to be useful.

Overall, the AcerScan Prisa 620P is a solid scanner that breezes through most tasks, aside from the software installation. Prospective buyers may want to consider purchasing an alternate OCR program to be sure that the time saved on scanning isn't spent correcting the OCR software's shortcomings.

—Keith Kirkpatrick

SECTION CONTINUES ON PAGE 244

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THE BUCK!

-PC Magazine, December 1998

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- Microsoft Windows 98
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- Altec Lansing ACS44 Speakers with Subwoofer
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- Microsoft Windows 98
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- 1.44MB 3.5" Floppy Drive
- ATI Rage Fury 128-Bit 32MB 2X AGP 3D Graphics Accelerator w/TV Out
- Creative Labs Sound Blaster Live! Value 3D Wavetable Sound Card
- Altec Lansing ADA305 USB Speakers with Subwoofer
- 56K V.90 PCI Voice/Data/Fax Modem
- Microsoft Windows 98
- 104 Keyboard, Microsoft Intellimouse
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- 32X Max SCSI CD-ROM Drive
- 3Com 905TX 10/100 PCI Network Card
- Intel® LanDesk Manager
- Microsoft Windows NT 4.0 Workstation
- 104 Keyboard, Microsoft Intellimouse
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 1 Game, and 2 USB Ports
- 3 Year Parts & Labor Warranty
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- Year 2000 Compliant

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- Call for dual processor configurations

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- 1.44MB 3.5" Floppy Drive
- ATI Rage Fury 128-Bit 32MB 2X AGP 3D Graphics Accelerator w/TV Out
- 32X Max SCSI CD-ROM Drive
- 3Com 905TX 10/100 PCI Network Card
- Intel® LanDesk Manager
- Microsoft Windows NT 4.0 Workstation
- 104 Keyboard, Microsoft Intellimouse
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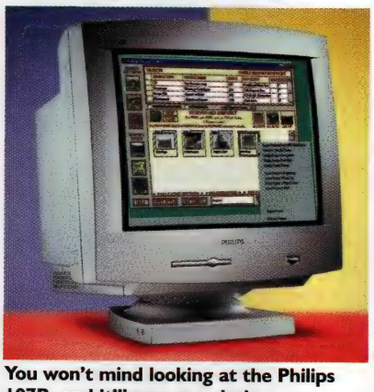
PHILIPS 107B

On the Short Side

Philips Monitors' new 107B short-necked 17-inch monitor is no deeper than most 15-inch displays, yet offers 16 inches of viewable area. Its uses a Hitachi tube with a 0.22mm dot pitch and displays sharp, crisp images. Moreover, its $449 list price isn't rough on your wallet.

Five small buttons on the 107B's bezel are used to adjust the brightness and contrast, and to control the onscreen display (OSD). There's also a small power switch flanked by an indicator light, but due to its shallow depth, we found it too small and rounded to operate conveniently. On the other hand, if you use a surge suppressor to power your system, the monitor's switch becomes a moot point.

Philips' OSD is easy to master and convenient to use. It provides basic picture and geometry controls, including balanced pincushion and rotation, and color temperatures of 9,300 and 6,500 degrees Kelvin. The OSD is also used to correct horizontal and vertical moiré, manually degauss the tube, specify the menu language, and change the length of time the menu will remain displayed. Finally, it displays the current resolution and scan-rate settings, with a toggle for the power-saving mode. Nevertheless, it lacks adjustments for convergence and linearity, which are commonly found on most expensive monitors.



You won't mind looking at the Philips 107B, and it'll save you desk space.

All the OSD adjustments are duplicated through the included Philips CustoMax software, but you must connect the 107B via its USB port to gain this enhancement. An audio pass-through on the monitor's base lets you connect the 107B to your system's sound card. (You'll also find a headphone jack on the monitor's base.) Contrary to the instruction manual's claim, the 107B lacks internal speakers.

The 107B supports resolutions up to 1,600x1,280 at 65Hz. We tested it with a Matrox Millennium II graphics board at the more comfortable resolutions of 1,024x768 at 85Hz and 1,280x1,024 at 75Hz. Performance testing was done using Sonera Technologies' DisplayMate 1.2. Screen uniformity, image geometry, and convergence were all quite good for a monitor in this price range. We were also impressed by the 107B's high contrast and bright, sharply focused image.

Overall, the Philips 107B affords ample provisions to correct the few image flaws we encountered. And although this monitor probably wouldn't be a first choice for graphics professionals, it works handsomely as a general-purpose monitor—and conserves desk space to boot.

—Matthew Klare

COMPANY .....Philips Monitors
Atlanta, GA; 800-531-0039, 770-821-2400
www.philipsmonitors.com
PRODUCT .....Philips 107B
SUPPORT .....Live toll-free phone support, 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Mon. to Sat. (ET); e-mail; three-year parts-and-labor warranty
SUITABILITY ...A solid, space-saving monitor upgrade for all but the most demanding of users
REQUIRES .....Windows 95 or Windows 98; USB option requires Windows 95 OSR 2.1 or Windows 98
LIST PRICE $449

EPSON STYLUS COLOR 740

Looks Great, Less Hassle

Talk about a compatible printer: The Epson Stylus Color 740 can connect to three different interfaces (USB, parallel port, or Macintosh serial port), offers a number of advanced printing options, and accepts a variety of media. And at $249 estimated, it even accommodates most budgets.

The 740 supports a maximum resolution of 1,440x720 dpi and uses Epson's Micro Piezo technology, which enhances image details by using ink droplets of varying sizes. You can choose from several automatic quality/speed settings or fine-tune the output using controls for resolution, halftoning method, brightness, contrast, saturation, individual CMY levels, bookmarking, and watermarking. The choice of media, however, determines which settings are available for any particular chore. Supported media include coated paper, photo paper, transparencies, self-adhesive sheets, cards, banners, labels, and iron-on transfers. The 740 supports paper sizes ranging from 3.5x3.5 inches up to 8.5x44 inches.

Setup under Windows 98 was easy on our 266MHz Pentium II testbed system. The 740 had a 3.1-ppm rating when tested with our black-text Microsoft Word document at 360 dpi. (At 1,440 dpi, it took the 740 more than an hour to print the same 12-page document.) Our single-page Microsoft Publisher document, which combines black text and color graphics, printed at 0.4 ppm in the Fine 720-dpi mode and at 0.1 ppm in Photo 1,440-dpi mode on coated paper. At the Photo 1,440-dpi resolution, the 740 printed our 8.5x11-inch color photograph in 19 minutes and 48 seconds. The discrepancies between Epson's speed ratings—6 ppm for black text and 5 ppm for color—and our test scores result from different print resolutions: Epson's tests were conducted in Economy mode (180 dpi), and ours were run at 360, Fine 720, and 1,440 dpi.

Although the 740's print speed may be on the slow side, its output quality is excellent. Text and lines were sharp, and colors were fully saturated. Our Microsoft Publisher document, when printed in the Photo 1,440-dpi mode, rivaled laser printer output. However, our color photograph wasn't as vibrant overall as its original. If you plan to primarily print photos, you'll probably want a printer capable of producing more realistic flesh tones.



The Stylus Color 740 provides sharp, clear output at a budget-minded price.

The 740's software bundle includes Adobe PhotoDeluxe 2.0, Broderbund's The Print Shop PressWriter, and a sample media pack. The unit ships with one black and one color ink cartridge, and replacements cost $25.46 each. The cost of consumables works out to 4 cents and 8.5 cents per page for black-text and color documents, respectively—an excellent value.

Photo printing aside, the Epson Stylus Color 740's quality, versatility, and inexpensive consumables make it a valuable addition to almost any computer.

—Daniel A. Begun

Computer Shopper Best Buy APRIL 1999

Photo printing is not its specialty, but the Epson Stylus Color 740 provides three types of connections and provides excellent inkjet printing.

COMPANY .....Epson America
Torrance, CA; 800-463-7766, 310-782-0770
www.epson.com
PRODUCT .....Epson Stylus Color 740
SUPPORT .....Automated 24-hour toll-free support; live free phone support, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekends (PT); one-year limited warranty; one-year overnight-exchange warranty
SUITABILITY ....A versatile inkjet printer with outstanding output quality, though it's not recommended for photo-quality prints
REQUIRES .....16MB RAM (32MB recommended); 50MB hard drive space (100MB recommended); parallel, USB, or Macintosh-compatible 8-pin serial cable. Windows: Windows 3.x, Windows 95, Windows 98, or Windows NT 4.0. Mac: System 7.x or later
MFR. EST. PRICE $249

HOW TO BUY HARDWARE

Here are some guidelines to help you make smart component and peripheral purchases. In addition to keeping these tips in mind, find out if the vendor you buy from offers updated drivers or installation files on its Web site.

HARD DRIVES

> Don't skimp on capacity; extra gigabytes often come cheap.

> Any Ultra DMA IDE drive offers comparable performance to a SCSI drive.

> SCSI drives handle simultaneous data requests better, making them the preferred choice for network servers. However, they cost more per megabyte for the same capacity and performance, and they require a SCSI card. It's generally best to avoid SCSI for a workstation or a stand-alone system unless you need an external drive or need more than the four drives IDE supports.

REMOVABLE STORAGE

> Decide first on the minimum capacity you need per disk or cartridge, but don't ignore higher-capacity drives within your budget.

> A more expensive drive with less expensive media can save money in the long run. When you compare prices, add in the price of all the media you're likely to buy during the drive's lifetime. Also look for special media prices often available when you buy a drive.



> If you're archiving data for decades, optical discs are more stable than magnetic disks or tapes.

GRAPHICS CARDS

> Any card you buy should feature both 2-D and 3-D acceleration, unless you're a serious gamer and are willing to have one board for 2-D and one for 3-D, a scheme required by at least one 3-D chip set.

> For 2-D computing, such as business applications, memory determines resolution and color depth. Make sure the card offers the color depth you want at the resolution you plan to use, and you'll have enough memory by definition. For 3-D computing, for example, look for a minimum of 8MB to provide texture memory for 3-D games. Demanding 3-D applications, such as CAD and many popular game titles, call for cards with a top-drawer 3-D chip set and 16MB or more, which gives you at least 8MB of dedicated texture-storage memory.

> Make sure your graphics card and monitor both support the same refresh rate at the resolution you intend to use. For CRT monitors, 75Hz will usually be enough. If you're sensitive to flicker, however, plan to use an 85Hz refresh rate, especially with 19-inch or larger monitors.

> Gamers looking to maximize 3-D performance should keep an eye out for the latest, fastest chip sets as indicated by game makers' recommendations, published benchmark scores, and online resources.

> For best performance, your card should feature synchronous memory such as SDRAM or SGRAM, and a high-performance chip set.

MONITORS

> Resolution first: The minimum is 800x600. For multiple open windows or wide spreadsheets, choose 1,024x768 or 1,280x1,024. For graphics or DTP, 1,280x1,024 is the minimum, 1,600x1,200 is preferred, and 1,800x1,440 is best.



> Resolution determines the minimum size. For 800x600 with occasional forays to 1,024x768, a 15-inch unit will do. For 1,024x768 with occasional sessions at 1,280x1,024, move up to 17 inches. For 1,280x1,024, make that 19 inches. For 1,600x1,200, 19 inches might do, but 21 inches is better and is the only choice for higher resolutions.

> A 75Hz refresh rate at the highest resolution you use is usually enough. Again, if you're sensitive to flicker, insist on 85Hz, especially for 19-inch or larger monitors.

> Smaller pitch is better, but only for comparable measurements. For standard dot pitch, consider a maximum of 0.28mm, with 0.26mm or lower for better image quality. The equivalent numbers for stripe, slot, or horizontal dot pitch are 0.25mm maximum and 0.22mm for better image quality.

> If you expect to use USB devices at any time during the life of the monitor, look for a USB hub with several downstream connectors.

PRINTERS

> Print-speed and paper-handling requirements will define the category of printer you need: personal (most inkjets and lasers rated at 6 ppm and below), business (high-end inkjets and 6- to 10-ppm lasers), workgroup (network-ready printers), or departmental (15 ppm and up, often with collators and other extras).

> A higher dpi doesn't always mean a better image. Edge enhancement, more sophisticated dithering, and multilevel printing—with three or more shades for each ink instead of just on and off—can all make a low-dpi image outshine a high-dpi image.

> Check output samples before you buy or be sure you can return the printer if you're not satisfied.

> If you need great-looking monochrome text above all else, a monochrome or color laser delivers sharper text than all but a few 1,440-dpi inkjets. And compared with those inkjets, even the slowest laser is blindingly fast.

> Many inkjet printers can print photos at essentially photo quality. Even the best color lasers are limited to near photo quality, but they're the best compromise if you also need fast printing, high-quality text, and workgroup-level paper handling. ▼

NEXT MONTH

Turn to this space in May for How to Buy information on scanners, LCDs, and modems.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRIS GOULD

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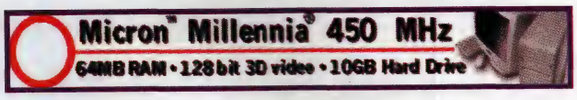














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5.	Epson Stylus Color 600	Printer
6.	Visioneer Communications PaperPort OneTouch	Scanner
7.	Lexmark Color Jetprinter 5700	Printer
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9.	UMAX Technologies Astra 1220U	Scanner
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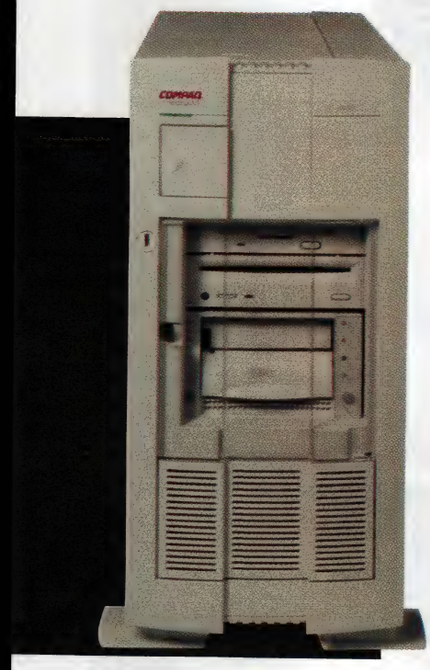
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- 3-year onsite limited warranty

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- Netelligent 10/100 Ethernet controller
- Integrated Wide-Ultra SCSI controller
- 3-year onsite limited warranty

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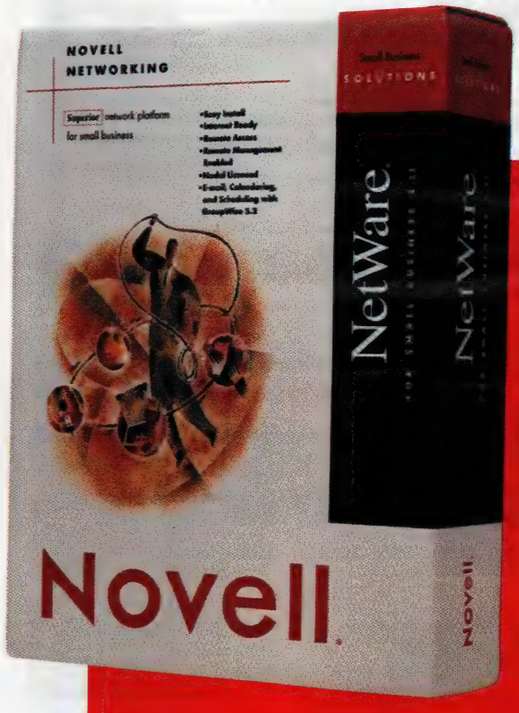
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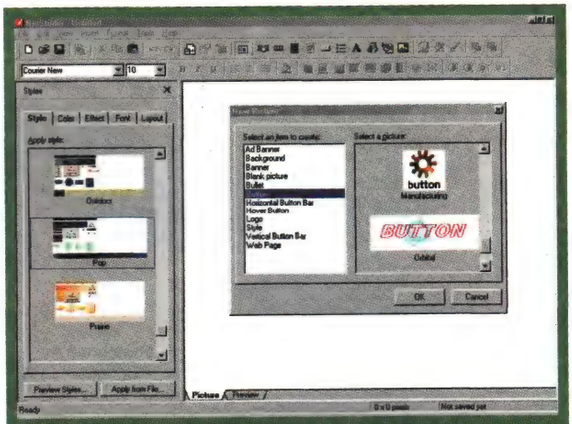
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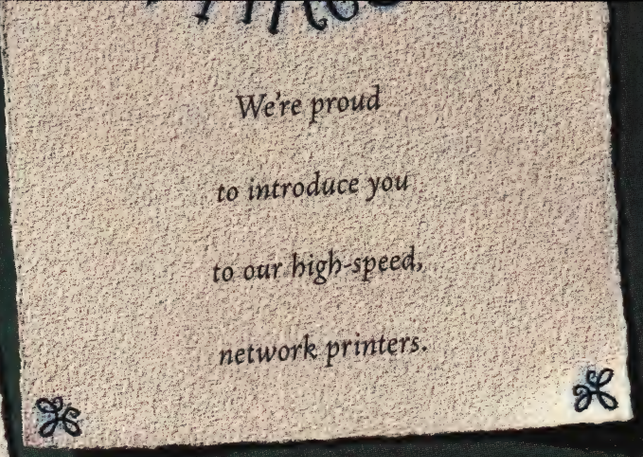
Microsoft Gives An Official Nod To Cloning With Its System Preparation Tool



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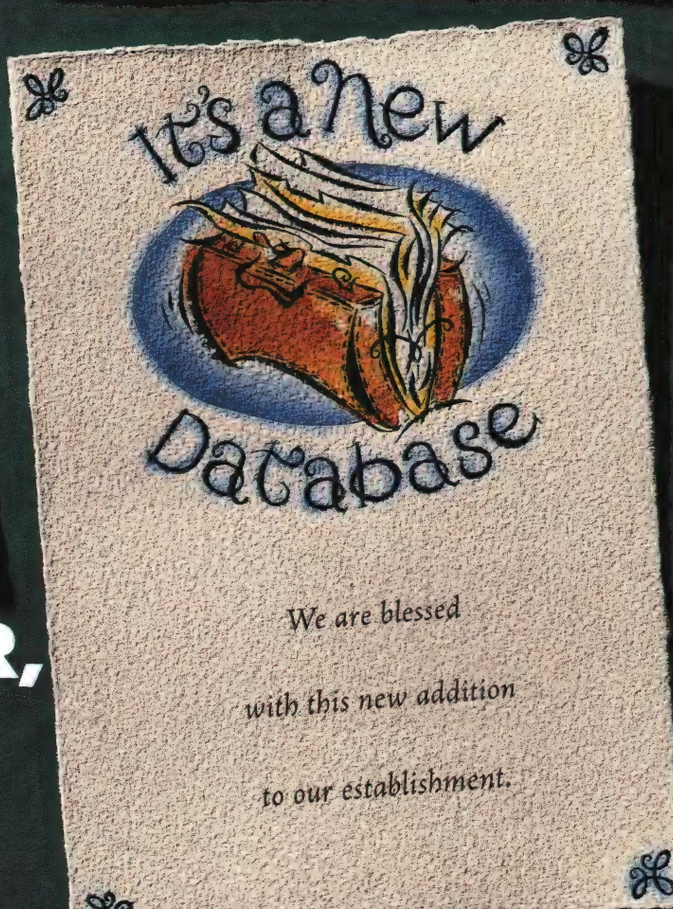












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★ *56K Capableπ Gold Card Global Modem, add $199.*

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$3349

Business Lease◊: $112/Mo., 36 Mos.

E•VALUE CODE: 05546-790333a

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Network-Optimized Notebook

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- 64MB EDO RAM (256MB Max)
- 4.3GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive

★ *Deluxe Nylon Case, add $69.*

★ *3Com 10/100 Fast Ethernet Adapter, add $169.*

★ *Modular LS-120 Drive (Includes One Free Piece of Media), add $199.*

★ *Upgrade to 3-Year Next-Business-Day On-site^Δ Service, add $99.*

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E•VALUE CODE: 05546-790328

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- 64MB EDO RAM (256MB Max)
- 4.3GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive

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★ *56K Capableπ x2 Modem, add $149.*

★ *Deluxe Nylon Case, add $69.*

★ *Modular LS-120 Drive (Includes One Free Piece of Media), add $199.*

★ *3Com 10/100 Fast Ethernet Adapter, add $169.*

★ *Upgrade to 3-Year Next-Business-Day On-site^Δ Service, add $99.*

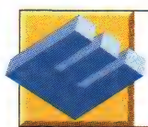
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TRENDS

Networks Are Coming Home

But consumers should start simple; Jini-based products emerge; and Intel releases a HomePNA-based kit.

Home networking is clearly the technology of the moment, with practically every major vendor entering the fray from one angle or another. And most of those vendors are thinking really big when it comes to home networking. But consumers, reluctant to adopt products early, are giving the industry a harsh reality check. Though confusion may be the main reason for this, according to the **Yankee Group,** which hosted a recent conference and conducted a study on the subject, they are right to proceed with caution.

Clearly there are network functions for the home that will interest consumers, like broadband service and wireless connections (such as RF), but many issues still need to be worked out before it makes sense to jump on board with them—namely cost, availability, and interoperability.

Yankee Group's study revealed that home-networking products will roll out in three phases. In early 1999, we should see products that provide file and print sharing and simultaneous Internet access, with cable modems spurring the growth of broadband services and applications around mid-year. This second phase of services should encourage a market for new entertainment applications, from digital video to audio-on-demand. The final phase will focus on home gateways, which should appear by early 2000, and bring all the technologies and devices within the home together.



The best advice for consumers is to start simple with file and print sharing, shared Internet access, and multiplayer gaming, and gradually ramp up to the more sophisticated technologies as more solid standards begin to emerge.

One development sure to boost the proliferation of home networks is a kit announced by **Intel Corp.** that will be based on the **HomePNA** spec for connecting PCs and peripherals. It will operate at 1Mbps and provide software that lets users easily set up a network structure. A ship date has not been set.

Intel is also the manufacturer of chips based on the HomePNA specifications for home-network add-on cards that it will offer to PC makers. Other companies supplying HomePNA-compliant network add-on cards include **Actiontec, Best Data Systems, Boca Research,** and **Diamond Multimedia Systems.**

Sun Microsystems has joined the drive toward home networking with the release of its highly touted **Jini** technology, which is based on Java, for easily connecting computing devices to a network—particularly home networks. Sun has announced 35 companies that will license the technology, including **Philips Electronics, Quantum Corp., Seagate Technology,** and **Sony Electronics.**

Sun will offer Jini in a community source-code model similar to Java. The code is free to software developers who are working in research or using Jini for their own internal deployment. For commercial use of Jini, companies will pay a licensing fee for the Jini logo to cover the trademark costs—either 10 cents per unit or $250,000 per year, per product line.

Quantum expects to offer a Jini-ready disk drive this year. **IBM, Microsoft Corp.,** and **Lucent Technologies** are developing a similar Jini-compatible technology, known as IBM's **T-Spaces** project, for connecting disparate devices on a network. T-Spaces will let computers and devices share network services such as messages, database queries, and print jobs. (For more information on emerging technologies that link computing devices in the home, check out this month's Technology section feature story "Creative Connections.")

SPRINT GOES THE DISTANCE. As carriers confront the "last mile" issue in high-speed network services, **Sprint** announced that it will be testing a new wireless-access service called **AB-Access.** The technology, developed by **California Microwave,** can move data at transfer rates of up to 25Mbps. The service likely will be used as a last-mile link in Sprint's forthcoming **Integrated On-Demand Network.**

ACTIVE LINKS

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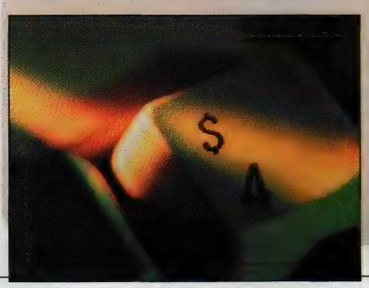
The technology relies on "packet on demand," in which data is transmitted in 53-byte ATM cells via microwave signals carried in the unlicensed 5.25GHz to 5.8GHz band. It provides a mix of packetized voice and data services; a complementary technology, **Time Division Duplex,** enables AB-Access to provide 25Mbps service both upstream and downstream, making it highly important to business users.

—Stephanie Izarek

NEWSBITS

ESOURCING ARRIVES
Eliance Corp. has announced **eSourcing,** a suite of e-commerce outsourcing services. Eliance is the only e-commerce outsourcing company to offer 40 back-end services to Web merchants for no up-front cost.

The enhanced suite of services includes international risk management, Web-based customer service, and payment processing. It lets Web merchants establish a solid e-commerce site at a lower cost than outsourcing each component separately.



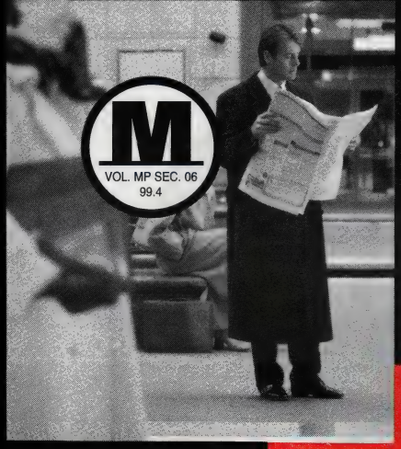
IPSWITCH ANNOUNCES IMAIL SERVER 5.0
Ipswitch has announced **IMail Server 5.0 for Windows NT With Web Messaging,** which includes the first customizable Web-mail interfaces with standard desktop features like an address book and message folders. With unmatched e-mail client compatibility, IMail Server 5.0 is a good messaging solution for small to medium-size businesses.

ILLUSTRATION BY TIMOTHY COOK

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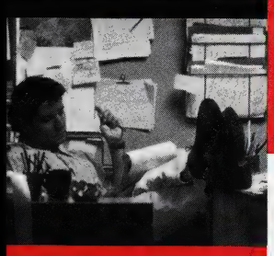
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— PC Computing
A-List, Best Web Server
June 30, 1998



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— PC World
November 1998



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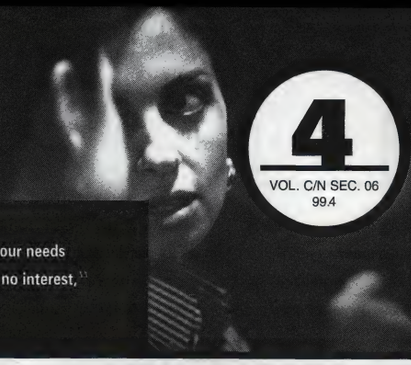
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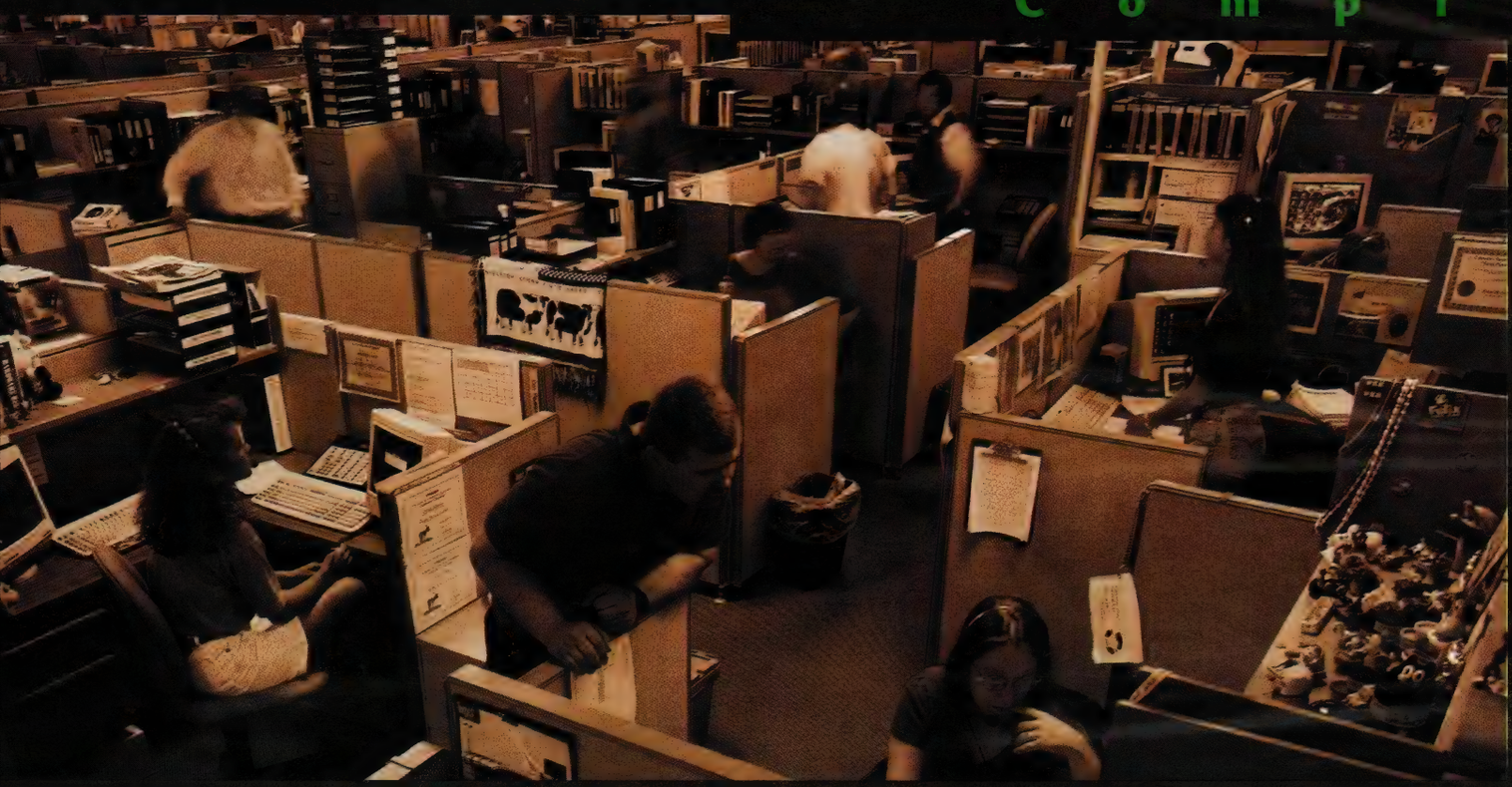
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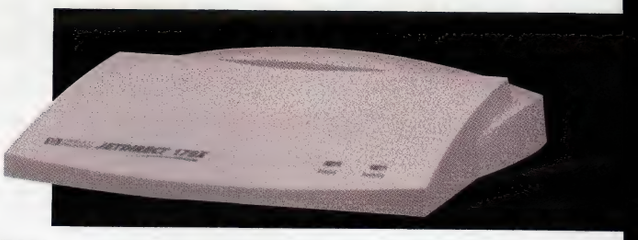
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Ghosting the Machine

BY RONALD V. PACCHIANO

Cloning, or ghosting, has long been recognized as a faster, simpler way to configure networked PCs—though not by Microsoft. But now, with its very own solution, the System Preparation Tool, even Microsoft has come around.

One of the toughest and most time-consuming procedures involved in integrating new PCs with an existing Windows NT network is enforcing the standardization of operating systems and business applications. Between installing the operating system, the service packs, the device drivers, and the applications, and fine-tuning the configuration, preparing a single Windows NT workstation can easily take several hours. With each new installation, you increase your chances of forgetting to install a service pack or load a specific printer driver. Even worse, you could install an updated version of a program that your company isn't licensed to support, making it even more difficult to maintain a network-wide standard.

Throughout the entire setup process, you also need to remain parked in front of the workstation, answering questions and responding to prompts. This process takes away your attention from other potentially more important issues, such as managing the network, rolling out new servers, solving space shortages, and so on. In a small company, this is inconvenient. In a large organization, with hundreds or even thousands of PCs, it can become an administrative nightmare.

Imagine how much time you would save if you could set up a Windows NT workstation just once—taking the time to load everything you need and essentially creating the perfect system. Then imagine taking a "picture" of that system's hard drive and copying it onto another system. This would give you two perfectly configured machines. Then consider that you could move those pictures to two more systems, and again to two more. You would quickly discover that you have just rolled out a hundred PCs in almost the same time it once took to set up two new ones. Well, this process does exist, and it's called cloning, or ghosting.

THE TRADITIONAL SOLUTIONS

During the past few years, MIS departments across the country have discovered cloning's benefits and embraced it wholeheartedly. Unfortunately, Microsoft Corp. didn't support it until recently, for various reasons discussed later in this article. So administrators turned to third-party solutions to gain the benefit of cloning.

Two of the most popular software utilities on the market today are Symantec Corp.'s Ghost and PowerQuest Corp.'s Drive Image Professional. Symantec's Ghost Multicast 5.0 offers a new graphical user interface, and its enhanced multicasting capabilities let you clone multiple workstations across a network simultaneously. This latest version of Ghost supports image-file partitions, making it possible to clone individual partitions of a hard drive, as opposed to eradicating an entire drive.

Drive Image Professional 2.0 has improved usability through a redesigned user interface, and it adds a new image-creation wizard to the package. It also includes a host of useful tools, ranging from the Image File Editor, for extracting and restoring individual files from within an image, to the ImageShield, which you can use for encrypting and password-protecting image files.

Additionally, each of the cloning packages mentioned above offers utilities for creating a unique system security identifier (SID) for a newly cloned workstation. Ghost Walker is Symantec's SID changer and is offered as a free add-on for licensed Ghost

users. Drive Image Professional uses a utility called SIDchanger. This utility not only alters the system SID, but also changes workstation-specific information such as user names and passwords as it clones Windows NT.

MICROSOFT'S HESITATION

As mentioned earlier, the above methods are not supported by Microsoft. Whenever Microsoft was confronted with the subject of cloning Windows NT workstations, despite the evidence that the technique was being widely used by IS departments of all sizes, the company simply would not accept the validity of cloning. According to Microsoft officials, the corporation's position was that "cloning with third-party utilities in the past has caused problems that were either impossible to diagnose or not fixable without rebuilding the entire system."

Microsoft has been opposed to the idea of cloning Windows NT machines, even taking the extreme position of telling users to look elsewhere for technical support if they choose to go that route. Microsoft believed that the most efficient and reliable way of rolling out Windows NT workstations was to repeat the installation process for each system. This forces you to make configuration decisions that are specifically matched to an individual machine.

Alternatively, you could take advantage of Microsoft's scripting tools to create an unattended installation script. These tools, however, were often difficult to set up and required tons of testing before they could be widely used with any confidence.

To be fair, cloning does have its problems, and Microsoft had two particular areas of concern. For starters, Windows NT is extremely sensitive to hardware and can be temperamental when confronted with hardware it doesn't recognize. All hardware (graphics adapters, network cards, SCSI cards, and so forth) associated with a new system should be identical models. Otherwise, after cloning, the system might become extremely unstable, occasionally locking up.

If you're really unlucky with cloning, you could experience the dreaded Blue Screen of Death (BSOD) error or maybe some other unexplainable faults. As a general rule, if you're going to be cloning PCs, you must use identical systems. Make sure each one uses the same hardware. Even subtle variations, like different BIOS versions, could cause problems.

The other major issue in system cloning is the Windows NT SID. A SID is created during the installation of Windows NT. This 96-bit SID is large enough so that it is unique each time a new one is generated. But when you clone an NT workstation, you're also cloning its SID. This creates a situation where at least two machines on the network will have the same SID. This can cause security problems on the network because the local user-account SID is going to be identical to the SID on the source PC.

In an NT domain, duplicate SIDs aren't really a concern because all user accounts are domain accounts, which are created when the system becomes a member of a domain. However, if your workstations are configured as members of a peer-to-peer network (with no NT Primary Domain Controller), then users with cloned SIDs could possibly gain access to local resources on another workstation. Additionally, if you're planning to upgrade your network to Active Directory when Windows 2000 ships, you're definitely not going to want any duplicate SIDs floating around. So although some of Microsoft's concerns may have been justified, its refusal to recognize cloning as a solution was not.



ILLUSTRATION BY TIMOTHY COOK

MICROSOFT'S OWN SOLUTION

Finally, after years of denial, Microsoft has accepted the concept of cloning and has released its own cloning utility called the System Preparation Tool.

Microsoft's System Preparation Tool prepares a preconfigured Windows NT 4.0 workstation (or source PC) for imaging and subsequently clones the image to another identically configured PC (or target PC).

The System Preparation Tool prepares the source Windows NT 4.0 workstation image to run a mini-setup wizard that generates a new SID, among other things. When the target PC boots up, the SID is regenerated, ensuring that each system SID is unique. The mini-setup wizard configures some of the PC or user-specific settings, including user name, organization, product key, computer name, and administrator password. Note that most of the configuration settings in the mini-setup wizard can be scripted to automate the process, minimizing setup-technician time.

With this utility, Microsoft now officially supports cloning. Since the company owns the

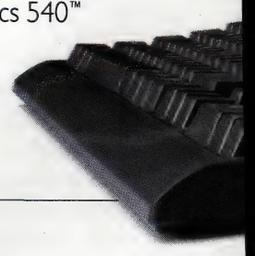
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32MB	(8x36)	72-pin	60ns	#25573	
64MB	(16x36)	72-pin	60ns	#02373	
Industry Standard 72-pin Non-Parity SIMMs					
16MB	(4x32)	72-pin	60ns	#06807	
16MB	(4x32)	72-pin	70ns	#95693	
32MB	(8x32)	72-pin	60ns	#96721	
64MB	(16x32)	72-pin	60ns	#02368	
NEW EDO Industry Standard 72-pin SIMMs					
16MB	(4x32)	EDO	60ns	#31675	
32MB	(8x32)	EDO	60ns	#35513	
64MB	(16x32)	EDO	60ns	#02370	



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Monitors

14" Monitors	Model	Viewable Area (in)	Dot Pitch (mm)	Maximum Resolution	Horizontal Refresh Rate (kHz)	Item #	ONLY
Optiquest	Q41	13.2"	0.28	1024x768	30-50	#51032	$134.98
Viewsonic	E641	13.1"	0.28	1024X768	30-54	#52807	$145.98
15" Monitors							
Princeton	EO500	13.8"	0.28	1280X1024	30-72	#55661	$194.98
ViewSonic	P655	14.0"	0.27	1280x1024	30-69	#57133	$235.98
Sony	100ES	14.0"	0.25AG	1280x1024	30-70	#46785	$199.98
ViewSonic	GA655	14.0"	0.27	1280x1024	30-70	#03645	$249.98
Compaq	V55	13.7"	0.28	1024X768		#70896	$235.98
17" Monitors							
Princeton	EO700	15.8"	0.28	1280X1024	30-70	#60481	$284.98
ViewSonic	E771	16.0"	0.27	1280x1024	30-70	#51069	$279.98
AcerView	79G	16.0"	0.25AG	1600x1200	30-95	#08430	$399.98
ViewSonic	GA771MM	16.0"	0.27	1280x1024	30-69	#57134	$399.98
NEC	E700	15.6"	0.25	1600X1200	31-82	#47457	$479.98
Iiyama	Pro 400	15.8"	0.25	1600x1200	27-92	#77943	$489.98
Sony	200ES	16.0"	0.25 AG	1280X1024	30-85	#46791	$359.98
Mitsubishi	Pro 700	16.0"	0.25 AG	1600x1200	30-95	#57113	$699.98
Hewlett Packard	HP 70	15.7"	.28 mm	1280X1024	31-70	#19043	$359.98
19" Monitors							
ViewSonic	PS790	18.0"	0.25	1600x1280		#03574	$599.98
Hitachi	MC7515	18.0"	0.22	1600x1200	75-160	#76535	$599.98
Optiquest	V95	18.0"	0.26	1600x1280	30-95	#47449	$499.98
Princeton	EO900	18.0"	0.26	1600x1200	30-92	#28624	$499.98
Iiyama	VM 450	18.0"	0.26	1600x1200	30-102	#55628	$589.98
ViewSonic	G790	18.0"	0.26	1600x1280	30-95	#46781	$579.98
Hitachi	SuperScan 75	18.0"	0.22 Hor.	1600x1200	31-93.75	#03531	$599.98
Nokia	446Xpro	17.7"	0.21MP	1600x1200	30-102	#60424	$729.98
Sony	400PS	18.0"	0.25-0.27	1600x1200	30-94	#46793	$729.98
Hewlett Packard	M900	18.0"	0.26	1600x1200	31-95	#58398	$649.98
21" Monitors							
Optiquest	V115T	19.7"	0.28	1600x1280	30-96	#57128	$999.98
ViewSonic	P815	20.0"	0.25	1800x1440	30-115	#28733	$1,159.00
Sony	500PS	19.8"	0.25-0.27	1600x1200	30-107	#46794	$1,099.00
Hitachi	MC801HR	20"	0.22	1600x1200	31-96	#76526	$1,229.00
Specialty							
Sony	W900	22.5"	0.25-0.28	1920x1200	30-96	#80665	$2,149.00
Flat Panel LCD's							
Compaq	FP700	15"		1024x768		#99112	$899.98
Optiquest	L700	15.1"		1024x768		#101422	$906.98
NEC	LCD1500M	15"		1024x768		#97186	$999.98
Sony	L150	15"		1024x768		#20171	$1,329.00

Printers

Inkjet	Max. Std. Resolution	Page per Min. B&W/Color	RAM Std./Max.	Max. Paper Size	Warranty (Years)	Item #	ONLY
Canon BJC-4300	720x360	5/2	64K	8.5x14"	1	#49409	$159.98
Canon BJC-80 Portable	720x360	4/2	35K	8.5x14"	1	#49411	$299.98
Epson Stylus Color 440	720x720	4/3	256K	8.5x14"	1	#57148	$129.98
Epson Stylus Color 640	1440x720	6/4	256K	8.5x14"	1	#57149	$179.98
Epson Stylus Color 740	1400x720	6/4	256K	8.5x14"	1	#31720	$249.98
Epson Stylus Color 1520	720x720	3/1	256K	13.6x21.78"	1	#40920	$499.98
HP DeskJet 420C Printer	600x300	7/4	16K	8.5x14"	1	#60287	$99.98
HP DeskJet 697C Printer	600x600	5/1.7	512K	8.5x14"	1	#60235	$149.98
HP DeskJet 712C Printer	600 dpi/PhotoRet II	6/3	512K	8.5x14"	1	#60237	$199.98
HP DeskJet 882C Printer	600 dpi/PhotoRet II	8/5	256K	8.5x14"	1	#102363	$299.98
HP DeskJet 895Cse	600 dpi/PhotoRet II	10/6	2 MB	8.5x14"	1	#60236	$399.98
HP DeskJet 1120Cse	600 dpi/PhotoRet II	6.5/4.5	512K	13"x19"	1	#57734	$499.98
HP 2000 Prof. Series Printer	600 dpi/PhotoRet II	10/7	2 MB	8.5x14"	1	#57731	$599.98
HP OfficeJet 600	600x600	5/2	512K	8.5x14"	1	#53201	$399.98
HP OfficeJet 710All Color, All-in-one	600x600	5/2		8.5x14"	1	#60220	$499.98
HP OfficeJet 1175CNetwork-Ready - Print, Scan, Copy, Fax	600x600	8/4	512K	8.5x14"	1	#57744	$999.98

Laser	Max. Std. Resolution	Page per Min. B&W/Color	RAM Std./Max.	Max. Paper Size	Warranty (Years)	Item #	ONLY
HP LaserJet 1100se Printer	600x600	8	3/18MB	8.5x14"	1	#60286	$399.98
HP LaserJet 2100se Printer	1200x1200	10	4/52MB	8.5x14"	1	#102382	$699.98
HP LaserJet 4000N Network Printer	1200x1200	17	4/100MB	8.5x14"	1	#53213	$1,399.00
HP LaserJet 8100 Printer	1200x1200	32	16/208MB	11.7x17.7"	1	#83019	$2,599.00
HP COLOR LaserJet 4500 Printer-600dpi/ImageREt 2400	16/4		32/208MB	8.5x14"	1	#60295	$2,458.00
Lexmark Optra K 1220	600x600	12	2/66MB	8.5x14"	1	#08563	$729.98
Lexmark Optra SC 1275	600x600	12/3	16/192MB	8.5x14"	1	#49514	$2,089.00
Minolta Pageworks 12	600x600	6	256K/4.25MB	8.5x14"	1	#45719	$529.98
Minolta Pageworks 20	600x600	20	4/68MB	8.5x14"	1	#45720	$659.98
Minolta Pageworks Color	600x600	12/3	4/68MB	8.5x14"	1	#45721	$1,479.00
Tektronix Phaser 740L	1200x1200	16	8/256MB	8.5x14"	1	#76620	$1,495.00
Tektronix Phaser 740 Color	1200x1200	16/5	20/256MB	8.5x14"	1	#76646	$1,995.00
GCC Elite 12/600	600x600	12	8/64MB	8.5x14"	1	#00539	$999.98
GCC Elite 608LC	600x600	8	8/64MB	11x17"	1	#52822	$1,399.00

Scanners

Model	Resolution	Bit/Depth	Sc an Area	Item #	ONLY
Umax Astra 1220S	600x1200dpi	36-Bit	8.5x11.7"	#58475	$149.98*
			*After $30 mfr. Mail-in rebate. Offer good through 3/31/99		
Umax Astra 1220U	600x1200dpi	36-Bit	8.5x11.7"	#18386	$129.98**
			**After $20 mfr. Mail-in rebate. Offer good through 3/31/99		
Umax Astra 1220P	600x1200dpi	30-Bit	8.5x11.7"	#18356	$79.98†
			†After $10 mfr. Mail-in rebate. Offer good through 3/31/99		
Microtek ScanMaker 4	1200x600dpi	36-bit	8.5x14"	#90877	$669.98
Microtek ImageDeck	600x600dpi	36-bit	8.5x11.7"	#97131	$499.98
Microtek ScanMaker X6EL	600x1200dpi	36-bit	8.5x14"	#18400	$239.98
HP ScanJet 4100Cse USB Scanner	600x1200dpi	36-Bit	8.5x11.7"	#60222	$199.98
HP ScanJet 5100Cse	600x1200dpi	36-bit	8.5x11.7"	#53251	$249.98
HP ScanJet 6200Cse Scanner	1200dpi	36-bit	8.5x11.7"	#60205	$399.98
HP ScanJet 6250Cse Scanner w/25-pg. Auto Doc Feeder		36-Bit	8.5x14"	#60277	$499.98
AGFA SnapScan EZ EPP	600x1200dpi	30-bit	8.5x11.7"	#58444	$129.98
UMAX Mirage IIse	700x1400dpi	36-bit	11.4x17"	#58415	$1,995.00
UMAX PowerLook IIIse	1200x2400dpi	42-bit	8.5x11.7"	#31864	$1,995.00
HP ScanJet 6250	1200dpi	36-bit	8.5x14"	#60277	$499.98
IBM IdeaScan	600x1200dpi	36-bit	8.5x11"	#82469	$129.98

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D-400 Zoom (1280 x 1024)	#102801	$799.98
D-620L (1280 x 1024)	#96864	$1,199.00
Kodak		
DC260 (1536 x 1024)	#73283	$899.98
DC220 (1152 x 864)	#73282	$699.98
DC210 Plus	#31861	$379.98
Toshiba		
PDR-M1 (1280 x 1024)	#03578	$485.98
PDR-5 (640 x 480)	#08484	$399.98
Epson		
PhotoPC 700 (1280 x 960)	#03588	$499.98
Sony		
Mavica FD51 (640 x 480)	#93848	$499.98*
Mavica FD71 (640 x 480)	#20250	$699.98*
Mavica FD81 (1024 x 768)	#93849	$799.98*
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QV-770 (640 x 480)	#72677	$388.98
Hewlett-Packard		
HP PhotoSmart C30 (1152x872)	#83446	$399.98

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Zip 100MB Int SCSI Drive	#73832	$99.95
Zip 100MB Ext USB Drive	#95251	$129.95
Zip 100MB Ext SCSI Drive	#12220	$99.95
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Iomega Jaz 2GB SCSI Internal Drive	#95233	$349.95
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Iomega Jaz 1GB 3 Pack	#50269	$269.85
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	7.6GB Ultra ATA 9.5ms 512K 5400RPM	QM307600EL-A	#516352	$185.98
	10.2GB Ultra ATA 9.5ms 512K 5400RPM	QM310200EL-A	#15027	$249.98
	12.7GB Ultra ATA 9.5ms 512K 5400RPM	QM3122700EX-A	#87954	$269.98
Seagate	6.5GB Ultra ATA 9.5ms 512K 7200RPM	ST36530A	#16232	$199.98
	9.1GB Ultra ATA 9.5ms 512K 7200RPM	ST39140A	#16233	$235.98
IBM	8.4GB Ultra DMA 9.5ms 512K 5400RPM	00K0394	#55125	$189.98
	14.4GB Ultra DMA 9.5ms 512K 7200RPM	00K4071	#21435	$379.98
	16.8GB Ultra DMA 9.5ms 512K 5400RPM	00K4073	#21436	$329.98

SCSI	Description	Mfr Part#	Item #	ONLY
Quantum	Viking II 4.5GB SCSI-3 Wide 7.8ms 512K 7200RPM	QM304550PX-SW	#70393	$264.98
	Fireball SE 6.4GB Ultra SCSI-3 10ms 128K 5400RPM	QM36400SE-S	#57039	$359.98
	Fireball SE 8.4GB Ultra SCSI-3 10ms 128K 5400RPM	QM38400SE-S	#57040	$334.98
	Viking II 9.1GB SCSI-3 Wide 7.8ms 512K 7200RPM	QM3091000PX-SW	#70395	$429.98
Seagate	Medalist Pro 4.5GB Ultra SCSI 9.5ms 512K 7200RPM	ST34520N	#16235	$239.98
	Medalist Pro 4.5GB SCSI Wide 9.5ms 512K 7200RPM	ST34520W	#16237	$239.98
	Barracuda 4.5GB Ultra SCSI-2 7.1ms 512K 7200RPM	ST34573N	#16397	$369.98
	Barracuda 9.1GB SCSI-2 Wide 7.1ms 512K 7200RPM	ST39173W	#70697	$449.98
IBM	Ultrastar 2XP 9.1GB Ultra SCSI-3 8.5ms 512K 7200RPM	00K3970	#14835	$449.98
	Ultrastar 9.1GB SCSI Wide 8.5ms 512K 7200RPM	00K3990	#87966	$449.98

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Fuji Zip Gray 20 Pack with 4 free disks by mail	#51767	$198.98
Fuji DLTtape IV TK88 Cart. 20/70GB	#42229	$78.98
Fuji DLTtape III TK85 Cart. 2.6GB/20GB	#51770	$32.98
Fuji DLTtape IIIxt TK87 Cart 15/30GB	#87858	$39.98
Fuji DLTtape Cleaning Cartridge	#87859	$39.98
Fuji DG90M 4mm Data Grade Tape 1.95GB	#05717	$4.89
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3Com Megahertz 10BT / TN LAN	#100029	$167.98
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3Com 56K V90 10/100TX Cable Connect Combo PCMCIA	#13210	$294.98
3Com EtherLink III PCMCIA 10T w/Cables	#100025	$127.98
3Com XJACK 10/100 LAN CblCnnct CardBus	#10824	$148.98
3Com Mhtz 10/100 CblConnect CardBus	#12130	$148.98
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3Com Mhtz 10T LAN PCMCIA	#43388	$127.98
3Com Fast EtherLink XL PCMCIA 10/100 16Bit	#46347	$148.98
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3Com OfficeConnect 10T TP4 Hub (4 RJ45/10T)	#46266	$46.98
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3Com OfficeConnect 10T 8/TPO Hub (1AUI/8 RJ45)	#32044	$96.98
3Com OfficeConnect 10T 16/TP0 Hub (16 RJ45/BNC)	#46267	$164.98
3Com SuperStack II Baseline10BT 12 Port Hub	#76067	$179.98
3Com SuperStack II Baseline10BT 24 Port Hub	#76068	$288.98
Asante FriendlyNet 10T 5 Port Desktop Hub	#106517	$47.98
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Intel InBusiness 10T 5 Port Hub (5 RJ45)	#57330	$48.98
Intel InBusiness 10T 8 Port Hub (8 RJ45)	#57331	$58.98
NetGear 10T 4 Port Hub	#76430	$35.98
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3Com OfficeConnect 100TX 4 Hub (4 RJ45)	#50789	$97.98
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3Com OfficeConnect 100TX 12 Hub (12 RJ45)	#50791	$279.98
3Com SuperStack II 100TX 12 Hub	#60329	$737.98
3Com SuperStack II 100TX 24 Hub	#60330	$1,078.00
Intel InBusiness 100TX 4 Port Hub (4 RJ45)	#57333	$98.98
Intel InBusiness 100TX 8 Port Hub (8 RJ45)	#57334	$174.98
Linksys EtherFast 100TX 5-Port Desktop Hub	#57391	$69.98
NetGear 100TX 4 Port Hub	#44276	$89.98
NetGear 100TX 8 Port Hub	#44278	$148.98
NetGear 100TX 8 Port Stack Hub	#37971	$275.98

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Linksys EtherFast 10/100 5 Port Hub	#35818	$99.98
Linksys EtherFast 8 Port Desktop Hub	#02570	$151.98
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NetGear 10/100 16 Port Stack Hub	#03856	$519.98
Intel InBusiness 10/100 8 Port Hub (8 RJ45)	#15875	$219.98

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3Com OfficeConnect Switch 400 4 Port	#36897	$387.98
3Com Baseline 10/100 Switch 12 Port	#35585	$759.98
3Com Baseline 10/100 24 Port Switch	#100102	$1,109.00
Asante FriendlyNet 4002E 2 Port 10/100 Switch	#11926	$189.98
Asante FriendlyNet 4004E 4 Port 10/100 Switch	#15877	$219.98
Asante FriendlyNet 4008E 8 Port 10/100 Switch	#15878	$424.98
Intel InBusiness 10T 8 Port Switch (8 RJ45)	#57336	$229.98
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BayStack 450-24T 24 Port 10/100 Switch	#11098	$2,299.00
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NetGear ISDN Router w/4 Port 10T Hub	#35332	$298.98
Intel InBusiness Internet Station	#57338	$369.98
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Cisco 772 ISDN Router w/NT-1 4 Port Hub	#85145	$495.98
Cisco 776 ISDN Router NT-1/2POTS/4Port Hub	#13258	$595.98
Cisco 1601 EN/Serial Modular Router	#75627	$1,139.00
Cisco 1605-R Dual Ethernet Router	#60325	$1,139.00
Cisco 2501 Dual Serial Router	#11475	$1,644.00
Cisco 2514 Dual Ethernet/Dual Serial Router	#11485	$1,929.00

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Microsoft

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BackOffice Server 4.0 Comp Upgr.	#55845	$1,899.00
BackOffice Server 4.0 Server	#55847	$2,300.00
SQL Server 6.5 for NT Upgrade	#53152	$439.98
SQL Server 7.0 5 client for NT	#86655	$1,290.00
Windows NT Workstation 4.0 w/IE4.0	#55819	$259.98
Windows NT Workstation 4.0 Version Upgr.	#55820	$134.98
Windows NT Server 4.0 Version Upgrade	#57510	$312.98
WinNT Svr Enterprise Ed. 4.0 Upgr.	#53338	$2,999.00
Proxy Server 2.0 Comp/Ver Upgrade	#44085	$449.98
Proxy Server 2.0	#44084	$899.98
Exchange Server 5.5 - 5 Client	#43649	$899.98

SOFTWARE



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Dreamweaver 2 Upgrade	#14173	$124.98
Dreamweaver 2	#54230	$298.98
Fireworks 2	#77524	$198.98
Fireworks 2 Upgrade	#104510	$129.98
Dreamweaver 2.0/Fireworks Bndle	#53594	$389.98
Director 7.0 Shockwave Internet Studio	#20219	$988.98
Director 7.0 Shockwave Internet Studio Upgrade	#31104	$489.98

Symantec

NetObjects Fusion 4.0 Upgrade	#98141	$98.98
Norton SystemWorks w/$10. Rebate	24890	$54.98*

*After $10 mfr. mail-in rebate. Low Zone price $64.98

Norton AntiVirus 5.0 95/98/NT	23947	17.98*

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Business



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FileMaker Pro 4.1 Win 3.1, 95/ NT ..#52483 $126.98*
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Microsoft

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Office Pro 97	#40206	$449.98
Project 98 Comp./Version Upgrade	#33449	$178.98
Project 98	#39236	$449.98
PowerPoint 97	#40216	$299.98
PowerPoint 97 Upgrade	#40217	$94.98
NT 4.0 w/ 5 client	#59075	$649.98
NT 4.0 Wrkstn w/Intrnt exp 4.0	#55819	$259.98
NT 4.0 Wkstn upg w/intrn exp 4.0	#55820	$134.98

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Corel

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Microsoft

Office 97 Pro Upgrade w/BookShelf Basics	#40207	$309.98
Office 97 Small Business Ed 2.0 Comp/Ver Upgrade	#42835	$219.98
Office 97 Pro w/Bookshelf Basics	#40206	$449.98
Office 97 Small Business Edition 2.0	#42834	$449.98
Office 97 Standard Edition	#40203	$449.98
Office 97 Standard Edition Comp/Version Upgrade	#40204	$219.98

Operating Systems



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MS Windows 98 Upgrade CD-ROM	#03203	$89.98
MS Windows 98 Full Ver CD-ROM	#03201	$184.98
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MS Windows NT Workstation 4.0 Version Upgrd	#55820	$134.98
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MS Visual Studio 6.0 Pro Competitive/Version Upgrade	#17524	$489.98
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MS Visual Studio 6.0 Enterprise	#17525	$1,498.00
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MS Visual FoxPro 6.0	#17564	$489.98
MS Visual C++ 6.0 Pro Competitive/Version Upgrade	#17530	$244.98
MS Visual Basic 6.0 Pro Competitive/Version Upgrade	#17545	$239.98
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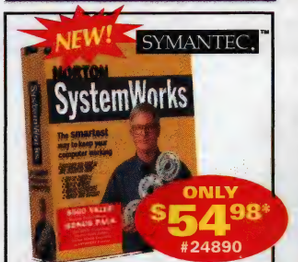
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Utilities



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Norton AntiVirus 5.0	#23947	$17.98*

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pcANYWHERE 8.0	#27304	$156.98
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Norton SystemWorks 2.0 95/98	#24890	$54.98*

*After $10 mfr mail-in rebate. Low Zone Price $64.98

Graphics



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Adobe

PageMaker 6.5 for Win95 Upgrade	#37610	$114.98
PageMaker 6.5 for Win95 Full	#37609	$549.98
Illustrator 8.0 Upgrade	#88821	$114.98
Illustrator 8.0 Full	#10791	$369.98
Photoshop 5.0 Upgrade	#17245	$178.98
Photoshop 5.0 Full	#32955	$598.98
Adobe Graphic Studio	#71271	$924.98

Corel

CorelDRAW! 8 Upgrade	#50806	$224.98

Macromedia

FreeHand 8 Full Version	#54245	$398.98
FreeHand 8 Competitive Upgrade	#23648	$198.98
FreeHand 8 Upgrade	#23628	$148.98

Microsoft

Photodraw 2000	#85940	$139.98
Graphics Home Publishing Suite	#85729	$74.98
Ms Graphics Studio	#85933	$44.98
Publisher 98	#57548	$94.98

Quark, Inc.

QuarkXPress 4.0 for Windows 95	#11910	$698.98

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Ghosting the Machine

(continued from page 261)

underlying source code in the System Preparation Tool, the recommended and Microsoft-sanctioned way to prepare systems for cloning is via the tool. If customers use this tool and need support on a cloned system, the likelihood of Microsoft solving the customer's problem without requiring rebuilding of the system is greater.

The System Preparation Tool is supported only on Windows NT 4.0 Workstation and Windows NT 4.0 Server (acting as a standalone server). Previous versions of Windows NT, a Windows NT primary or backup domain controller, Windows NT Server 4.0 Enterprise Edition and Terminal Editions, and BackOffice Small Business Server are not supported.

Finally, after years of denial, Microsoft has accepted the concept of cloning and has released its own cloning utility called the System Preparation Tool.

USING THE SYSTEM PREPARATION TOOL

The process of deploying a configured Windows NT 4.0 workstation using the System Preparation Tool is relatively simple and significantly less time-consuming than using traditional setup programs for each application. The overall process can be summarized as follows. First, you need to set up Windows NT on your source PC, including all service packs and device drivers necessary for your system's hardware. When configuring the system, it is important that you don't assign a password to the Administrator's account, as the system will need administrative access to carry out its changes. While logged on as the local administrator, you then install, configure, and test all the applications on the source PC. Once the source PC has been created, it's time to run the System Preparation Tool.

On the source PC, create a directory named \SYSPREP on the same drive where Windows NT is installed and copy the System Preparation Tool files to it. The C:\SYSPREP directory will be automatically deleted after the System Preparation Tool has run. To run the System Preparation Tool, double-click on SYSPREP.EXE. You will then be required to enter various pieces of information about your license agreement. This includes such items as your organization name, your Volume License Agreement Contract Number, what type of Volume License Agreement it is, and the number of licenses you have.

Once that is complete, you can generate the source PC's image file using the same third-party disk-imaging tool you've always used (Ghost, Drive Image Professional, or another such program). After the image file has been created, dump it onto your target PC. The first time the target PC is booted, a mini-setup wizard will be initialized. The mini-setup wizard will prompt you for the following information: end user license agreement; registration; product ID; name and organization; computer name; and administrator password. Note that each of these prompts can be automated using a mini-setup-wizard script file.

When the mini-setup wizard finishes, you just verify the functionality of the target PC's systems and applications. Then you edit any user-specific settings such as e-mail client, IP address, and so on.

THE TROUBLE WITH MICROSOFT

Like any Microsoft product, however, the System Preparation Tool is not without its problems. You must install Windows NT 4.0 from the CD kit provided to Microsoft Select Volume License customers or from an OEM CD. The System Preparation Tool will not prepare a source PC installed from a retail CD.

Additionally, if Microsoft Office is installed on your source PC, it must also be an OEM or a Select CD version. If the System Preparation Tool detects that Windows NT or Office was installed from a retail package, you will receive the following message: "Use of this utility with the Microsoft products detected on this system is prohibited." The tool will shut down.

Even worse, when you are using the System Preparation Tool to duplicate a Windows NT workstation setup from one computer to another, the Repair folder on the target computer will still retain the SID from the source computer. The reason this product even exists was to address the duplicate SID issue. That means if you attempt to use the Emergency Repair Disk (ERD) to repair the Registry on the target PC, the SID from the source PC could overwrite the new unique SID in the Registry. This results in duplicate SIDs in the Registry and can lead to various access, permission, and security problems, which is what started the cloning controversy in the first place.

To prevent this from becoming a full-blown disaster, update the SID in the Repair folder on the target PC immediately after finishing with the mini-setup wizard. Update your ERDs using the command "RDISK /S." The /S lets the SID be updated by carrying out modifications to the security hive.

AVAILABILITY ISSUES

To get the Microsoft System Preparation Tool, a client must have a support agreement with Microsoft. Initially, Microsoft was offering the System Preparation Tool only to OEMs or organizations large enough to have an Enterprise service agreement (a support contract for more than 1,000 desktops). Until recently, the company wouldn't sell the tool to companies smaller than that.

Today, customers have some other support options available to them. Microsoft's Premier and Priority Support programs both qualify for the tool, and smaller companies can sign up for the Microsoft Open License Program. This program covers from five to 1,000 workstations. So as long as a business has at least five computers, it can get the System Preparation Tool.

Licensed users can get the System Preparation Tool by simply requesting the Windows Deployment Tools License Agreement. Send your name, address, and phone number to *winreq@microsoft.com*. Include "Microsoft Deploy Tool License Agreement Request" in the subject line. Or you can fax a request to Microsoft Deploy Tool License Agreement Request at 206-285-4403. You can also leave voice mail with your request by calling 800-394-9621 in the United States and Canada, or 001-1-206-378-5544 outside of those countries. To learn more about the variety of support options Microsoft provides for cloning, visit *www.microsoft.com/support*.

WHAT THIS MEANS TO YOU

The arrival of the System Preparation Tool is good news for everyone. Corporate IS departments will benefit because now they can clone Windows NT workstations without forfeiting their right to technical support. Also, this represents a radical change in the way Microsoft deals with third-party vendors. Normally, the company would just develop a similar product and give it away, cutting into the third-party market shares, as witnessed with Microsoft Internet Explorer 4 and Netscape Navigator.

In this case, Microsoft's System Preparation Tool is intended to work in conjunction with all existing third-party utilities, rather than as a replacement for them. The third-party software and the System Preparation Tool will divide the labor. The cloning software will handle the particulars of creating and distributing the system images, and Microsoft's tool will be responsible for SID generation. At the least, the tool's existence signals Microsoft's acceptance of a common practice, and in the long run, this legitimacy will make the jobs of IT departments much easier. ▼

NETSTUDIO 1.0

Web Art Made Easy

NetStudio brings sophisticated Web-graphics creation to nonprofessionals at any level.

BY LYNN GINSBURG

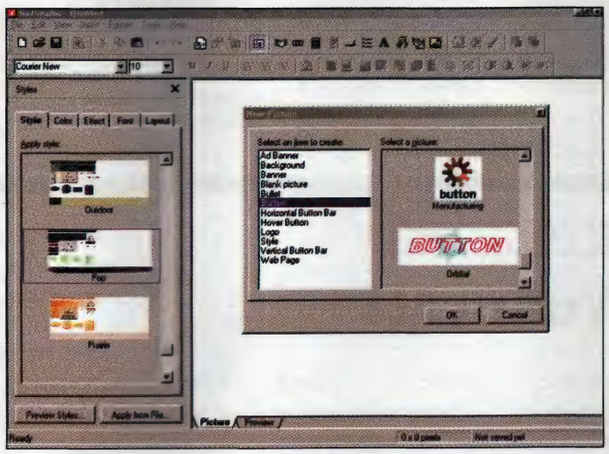
COMPANY .....NetStudio Corp.
Berkeley, CA; 800-672-9559, 510-644-9700
www.netstudio.com
PRODUCT .....NetStudio 1.0
SUPPORT .....Live free phone support for 30 days, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays (PT), beginning with first call; paid plans available thereafter; e-mail
SUITABILITY .....Perfect for amateur site designers with little or no artistic skill
REQUIRES .....Pentium or faster; 16MB RAM (32MB for Windows NT); 30MB hard drive space; Windows 95, Windows 98, or Windows NT 4.0
LIST PRICE $149

If you want to keep up with the Joneses.com, your site must be attractive. But if you lack artistic abilities, that could be a problem. Fortunately, NetStudio Corp. has released NetStudio 1.0, which is designed to help you create a variety of elements especially for the Web, including buttons, button bars, banners, backgrounds, and logos—regardless of your artistic or technical capabilities. The program also takes the guesswork out of some of the more confusing Web-graphics tasks, such as saving images to a Web-safe palette.

At the heart of the program are its predesigned, easily customizable templates. A dialog box lists the available templates for the various graphical elements you can create. NetStudio also displays a preview of the templates in a window at the right of the dialog box. Unlike programs that offer more sophisticated templates or wizards (for example, Microsoft Publisher), NetStudio has no up-front customization choices. (Many programs with templates or wizards walk you through choosing a few options up front, like the size and position, type style, custom text, and so on.) You can also opt to import HTML pages, but you can edit only the graphical objects placed on the page, and can't edit or change the HTML code.

The templates for the various graphical elements are attractive, but if you stick only to these, you're limited to what comes with the program. To avoid that "canned" appearance, you'll want to customize these basics to reflect your own style.

Once you've selected a template, you're placed in the main workspace, where you can get to work customizing your graphics. The interface corresponds closely to that of Microsoft Office. The way the program actually works, however, is a bit quirky by comparison. You have to work on projects in two separate modes. In Preview mode, you see the graphic or Web page as it will appear, but you can't make any edits. Picture mode is your workspace, but you can edit just one image at a time—even if you're working on an entire template. And you can have only one file open at a time. However, once you familiarize yourself with the interface's setup, it's easy enough to understand.



NetStudio starts you off with a wide selection of templates, which you can scan in the visual preview window.

NetStudio's Styles palette simplifies template customization by mixing and matching design elements from the program's various predefined styles. It offers more than 50 templates for designing complete Web pages, ranging from conservative corporate to contemporary "pop" styles. Among all of your templates, you can easily mix and match fonts, colors, and effects. For instance, if you've chosen a banner with a basic color and the Helvetica font, you can quickly and easily change it by swapping the color scheme from one of the templates displayed in the Styles palette and a more ornate font from a different template. You can even add your own styles to the palette.

Topping off NetStudio's customization offerings are a few basic tools for image editing, with which you can adjust brightness, contrast, sharpen, and blur. NetStudio also provides some elementary effects, including shadow, washout, emboss, and engrave, and allows you to set transparency for objects.

One problem with NetStudio's image-editing tools is that you can't select just a portion of an image on which to apply an effect. And while these tools provide enough functionality for basic image-editing tasks, their simplicity and ease of use are achieved by limiting user options and depth of control.

NetStudio can help you create a variety of elements for your Web site—including buttons, button bars, banners, backgrounds, and logos—regardless of your artistic capabilities.

One feature in the program that has potential to offer something a bit more advanced is the JavaScript "hover buttons," which reflect an "on" or "off" state as the user passes over them with a cursor (known as "rollovers" in other programs). However, in the very early shipping version we looked at, 1.0, the feature wasn't quite working smoothly yet. When we tried to fix the problem, there was no mention of the hover buttons in either the onscreen help or the online tutorial. We did eventually get them working, by first looking at the HTML source code the hover button had produced, then manually cutting and pasting the source code into our HTML editor. This is obviously not a technique recommended for those unfamiliar with HTML. The company has included documentation on the hover buttons in version 1.01.

NetStudio's behind-the-scenes function of prepping graphics for the Web is one of its most useful features for nonartists and non-Webmasters. The program will automatically handle such Web-specific graphics tasks as picking colors that are available on all browsers, and dithering colors to a Web-safe palette. It will also automatically save an image to the most appropriate format (either GIF or JPEG), although you can override with your own choice. For faster downloads, NetStudio will cut off unused white space when saving a picture.

More advanced site designers will probably find NetStudio's minimal control and editing tools to be too elementary. But between its highly customizable templates and its ability to prep graphics files to Web guidelines, the program provides a solid entry point for neophytes. For the artistically challenged, NetStudio 1.0 is a great primer on the ABCs of Web-graphics creation. ▼

SONICWALL PLUS

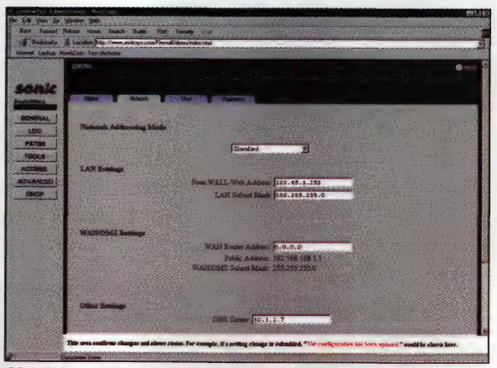
Thwart Network Intruders

As more companies gain a presence on the Internet, protection from unauthorized access becomes more significant. Firewalls are generally an expensive means of blocking intruders, but Sonic Systems' $400 SonicWall Plus delivers secure features at an affordable price.

The SonicWall sports a compact design—roughly the size of a VHS tape—with two Ethernet ports located on the back of the device. Once the unit is connected to the network, administrators can use a Java-enabled browser to configure the firewall and various management functions. The SonicWall provides content-filtering capabilities, prevents unauthorized intrusion, and also has a built-in DHCP server to assign IP addresses to networked PCs. And Sonic Systems provides free online firmware updates as new security enhancements become available.

The SonicWall's content-filtering options allow the administrator to block selected sites of the Internet/network from some users while authorizing access to other users. The content list can be easily edited as well. If a user tries to access a blocked site, it is logged to a file or access is denied outright. A customized message can be created to pop up when users access a forbidden site.

Installation of the SonicWall took just a few minutes. Once our network's settings were entered, the unit was up and running. The default configuration of the unit allowed outgoing Internet traffic but denied any incoming traffic. The SonicWall uses a Stateful inspection model, which is found in most high-end firewalls and even supports Network Address Translation for added security. It would have been helpful to include a Security wizard for configuring security rules, though.



Useful logging features let you keep track of the SonicWall's status and usage patterns.

COMPANY .....Sonic Systems
Santa Clara, CA; 888-222-6563, 408-844-9900
www.sonicsys.com
PRODUCT .....SonicWall Plus
SUPPORT .....Live free phone support, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays (PT); Web; one-year warranty
SUITABILITY .....Businesses looking for easily configured basic firewall protection
REQUIRES .....Java-compatible browser for administration; IP-based network; networked PCs
MFR. EST. PRICE .....$400 (10-user license); $1,350 (unlimited-user license)

The SonicWall held up well during our hacking attempts and denial-of-service attacks. We successfully blocked various types of activity, too, including RealAudio, Java and ActiveX applets, and cookies. And we found that the SonicWall can scale up to T1 speeds.

For businesses in need of firewall protection, SonicWall's security features, straightforward setup, and affordable price make it easy to recommend. However, businesses that need more extensive features, like virtual private networks and fault-tolerance capabilities, need to look higher up the firewall food chain.

—Rob Schenk

NORTON SYSTEM CENTER 3.02

Protect Your LAN

When it comes to protecting client machines from viruses, LAN administrators must often endure the tedious task of going from system to system to install and update virus software. Symantec Corp.'s Norton System Center 3.02 offers an efficient solution by letting administrators deploy, update, and monitor client virus software from a central location.

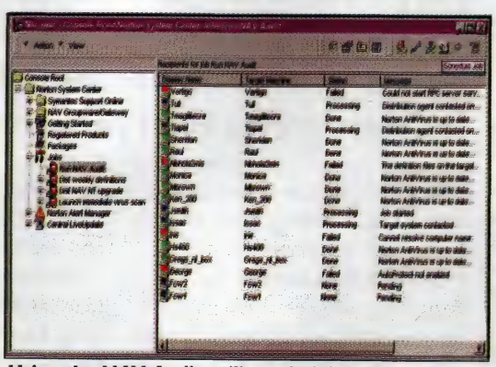
System Center is a snap-in for Microsoft Management Console (MMC). MMC is included on the System Center CD and will be integrated into Windows 2000. Version 3.02 is limited to machines running Windows 95, Windows 98, and Windows NT Workstation or Server (version 3.51 or 4.0) on Intel or Alpha platforms. Support for DOS systems, Windows 3.x systems, and Macintoshes is slated for a future release. System Center software can be distributed over Microsoft Windows NT, Novell NetWare, or other NOSs that support IP, IPX, or NetBEUI.

System Center works in conjunction with Norton AntiVirus to detect and delete viruses. Norton AntiVirus must be stored locally on the client machine, and System Center lets you "push" copies of AntiVirus to your client machines. Once installed, the System Center Console lets administrators execute virus scans on selected remote machines, as well as audit the systems to verify whether or not updated definitions are installed.

If a virus is encountered, special alerts notify the administrator. Notification can be through a customizable broadcast alert or an e-mail, but there is currently no paging support. Integration with enterprise network-management suites can be enabled through SNMP.

Using the Live Update utility, administrators can quickly download the latest virus updates from the Symantec Web site. If configured correctly, the process of downloading and distributing the updates to client machines can be scheduled and totally automated.

Installation was a breeze on our Windows NT 4.0 Server Primary Domain Controller (PDC). When we began creating a distribution job to send the Norton AntiVirus software to our Windows 95 and Windows NT Workstation clients, the distribution to Windows 95 clients failed. We discovered that we needed to launch an agent applet on the Windows 95 clients to enable communication. NT clients, on the other hand, receive the agent software automatically as part of the software distribution process.



Using the NAV Audit utility, administrators can easily update clients with outdated virus definitions.

COMPANY .....Symantec Corp.
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www.symantec.com
PRODUCT .....Norton System Center 3.02
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PRICE .....Free to licensed corporate sites

System Center is available as a free add-on to customers with a corporate site license of Norton AntiVirus, as well as to policyholders of the Norton AntiVirus Upgrade Insurance program. For sites heavily invested in Norton AntiVirus, Norton System Center is a necessary addition.

—R.S.

Site Building

Creating a Ring Around the Web

BY DAVID S. LINTHICUM

The Web is a constantly expanding, ever-evolving universe, and so we're always in need of fresh, innovative ways to present and access the information available there.

Now site managers and Web users alike can benefit from a service called WebRing. Based on the concept of a Web community, a Web ring is a collection of sites linked together by a common navigation mechanism or HTML code. As a result, users have the ability to jump easily among sites containing related information. You can find rings around all sorts of topics and special interests, including cooking, base jumping, and mystery writing.



The purpose is to allow more visitors quick and easy access to multiple sites that contain the content they need. You can use the directory to locate a ring on a particular interest like cooking. (For example, see *www.webring.org/cgi-bin/webring?ring=goodcook;list*.) Then you can display the directory of sites that exist in that ring. From there you can check out specific sites.

The WebRing service was initially developed in 1995 by two college students, Sage Weil and Troy Griffith, who formed the nonprofit organization WebRing (*www.webring.org*). They took the lead from the Expanding Unidirectional Ring of Pages (EUROPa), a project then underway at Imperial College in London.

Recognizing its significance, Starseed purchased the organization in 1997 and provided more dependable servers. Then on November 11, 1998, GeoCities announced that it would acquire WebRing to support the virtual communities of GeoCities in a $30 million deal.

The underlying technology of WebRing is simple. A centralized CGI script manages the links that members add to their sites, thus providing a common navigation engine. The centralization of this process eliminates the need for maintenance of custom code at each site. For example, when a ringmaster adds a new site to the ring, he or she simply updates a database called the ring directory. The CGI script then uses this directory for master navigation information for all the rings. From then on, the new site appears in the directory of that Web ring.

WebRing has advantages over mainstream search engines, as it allows users to move backward, forward, or randomly through a list of ring sites that match their interests up front. For site builders, it can help make your site more visible to the people most interested in your content.

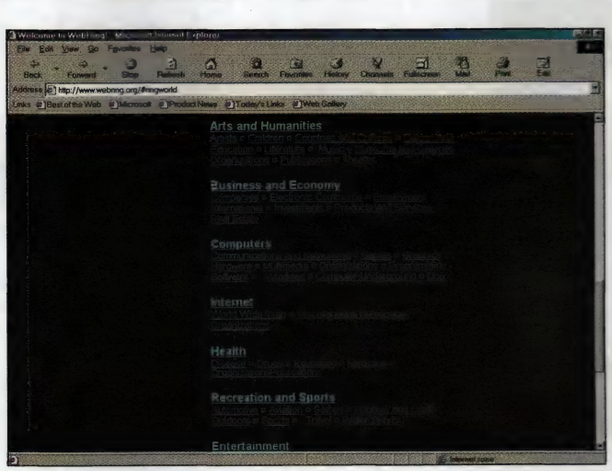
Since inception, Web rings have grown at a rate of more than 10 percent per month. There are currently more than 500,000 sites on WebRing, and more than 500,000 people visit those sites each day. At press time, the number of rings totaled in excess of 40,000.

THE CENTER RING

The WebRing system can handle an almost unlimited number of rings. Each ring is started and maintained by a site builder, and its structure allows for the creation and evolution of tens of thousands of cyber communities. Web rings place navigation links at the bottom of member pages, allowing site visitors to travel to one or all of the sites on the ring.

For instance, as a visitor, you can enter the ring through any member site, then use the ring navigation links to get to other sites that exist in the ring. Visitors can move through a ring in any direction and also view a listing for the next five sites on the ring. The easiest way to find a ring is to visit WebRing's online directory (*www.webring.org*). There, you can view the list of available rings, search for rings, or if you're willing, create a ring of your own.

If you own a site and want to become part of WebRing, it's simple. First, search the directory to see if the type of ring you need already exists. If you find one, add your site to the ring by notifying the ringmaster through a standard process. Typically, this means providing a standard GIF, a few lines of HTML code, and a request for a password. Each ringmaster controls what sites are allowed to join the ring and will have a set of rules and regulations. (The WebRing organization makes up the rules that control the ringmaster, and if a ringmaster becomes too discriminating, it can revoke the ring.)



The easiest way to find a ring of sites on a topic that may interest you is to visit WebRing's online directory.

But in keeping with the spirit of free enterprise, you can also start your own ring and compete for visitors. If you haven't already, you'll need to learn some basic site-building skills, such as HTML and other Web-enabling technologies. You also need to be prepared to invest a lot of time in the setup process.

Services of this nature are the great equalizers on the Web. You can promote your own special interests, such as mountain biking in New Jersey or juvenile asthma, and gain more exposure for your Web site. WebRing is a viable alternative to search engines because its results are more fine-tuned. Plus, the worst part of existing search engines is the practice of altering results in favor of paid sponsors. Web users are losing trust in the larger search engines, so the popularity of WebRing may be a backlash to all that.

WebRing does not control the content on each site, however, and it does not provide a search for keywords in content. Rather, the directory lists only existing topic rings. Also note that individuals, not corporations, created the majority of sites I saw on WebRing.

That said, when you decide to join a ring, you'll be taking advantage of a great mechanism for getting your site noticed within the context of its category. A WebRing provides your site with equal billing, so the result is more traffic.

On the other hand, when you set up a Web ring of your own, you own that ring and can therefore decide whether sites will be included in your ring. You then become the founder of a small community on the newest frontier: the Internet. ▼

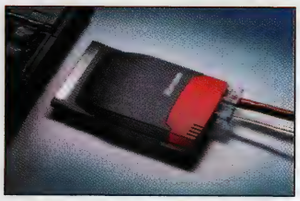
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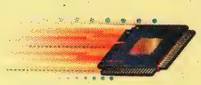
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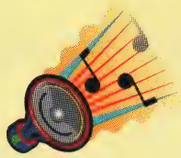
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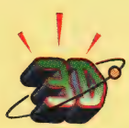
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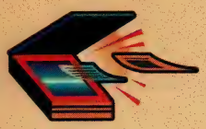
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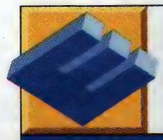
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Server and Demand

Swamped by the shopping masses, some sites are expanding beyond traditional marketing and distribution methods to move merchandise more efficiently.



You didn't have to wait for the release of the 1998 holiday-shopping numbers to know that online buying had skyrocketed beyond expectations. Just hitting a few sites would have clued you in to the fact that some Web retailers had already outgrown their servers. For instance, if you spent half an hour clicking the "reload" button or waited a month or so for a copy of a back-ordered DVD disc, chances are that the retailer's site failed to prepare for the holiday shopping masses.

They did, on the other hand, make a thorough attempt to advise consumers of their great sales and services. E-commerce sites flooded the market with special offers, advertising, and even trinkets sent via snail mail in an attempt to imprint their brands in the minds of potential online buyers. Companies like **Buy.com, Outpost.com, Shopping.com,** and **Value America** even purchased costly prime-time advertising in a bid to make their sites a household name.

And when companies are spending that kind of money to grab eyeballs, managing inventory can quickly become a liability. Not surprisingly, some major e-commerce players have turned over the shipping of products to distributors. Focused on attractive prices and broad selection, these sites hope to become one-stop-shopping destinations for a variety of products without laying a hand on a single box.

For example, Buy.com became a collection of six superstores at the end of 1998, featuring software, games, videos, books, and music in addition to PC products. Order from one of its five stores, and an appropriate distributor drop-ships the product directly to you.

"We never touch the inventory," says Scott Blum, president and cofounder. Buy.com promises the lowest prices on the Web for every product it sells. The idea is to attract a high volume of buyers, use that as leverage to get attractive prices from the distributors, then supplement the revenue with advertising dollars from big names that will pay to play where the traffic is.

Online-auction pioneer **OnSale** is moving in a similar direction with a new site called **atCost** (*www.onsale.com/atcost/atcost.htm*). PC distributor **TechData** drop-ships the products and handles the returns while OnSale provides the customer service and the buying power of its 970,000 registered users. Rather than promise the lowest price on all products, OnSale sells the products at wholesale prices and collects $5 to $10 per transaction, plus shipping charges and a fee to cover credit-card transactions.

Jerry Kaplan, OnSale's CEO, says the company hopes to pull in additional revenue from "vendor co-op" deals in which manufacturers pay to set up factory-direct online stores on atCost, thereby gaining access to OnSale's extensive customer base. Just as sites such as **computershopper.com** aggregate product listings for multiple vendors, atCost becomes a service rather than a store.

Neither OnSale nor Buy.com wants to take on department stores. Rather, OnSale says it will add electronics and sporting goods to atCost over time while avoiding small-ticket items like CDs and videos. In contrast, Buy.com embraces these items in its quest to beat **Amazon.com,** which has expanded beyond books to music and videos. Blum says two other product categories are in the works, but he declined to name them.

A PERSONAL SHOPPER

Not all online stores are taking the mass-consumer approach, however. Some, such as **Projector People** (*www.projectorpeople.com*), are narrowly focused on specific products; in this case, LCD projectors. Others, including mail-order PC veteran **Insight Direct** (*www.insight.com*), want to completely personalize the buying experience.

Insight recently began offering separate e-mail newsletters tailored to business, home, and corporate buyers, plus separate mailings for new products, specials, technical news, and a catalog. The company will soon let buyers select even narrower criteria, such as mobile products only, says Brian Burch, Insight's senior vice president of marketing.

Eventually, Burch hopes to introduce a set of modules that would enable customer service and sales reps to assemble any of hundreds of unique newsletters based on buyers' requests by phone.

"The customers customize their own experiences," he says.

And given the imbalance between server and demand that became so obvious last December, savvy buyers just might benefit from playing wait-and-see with one-stop shopping. After all, who *wouldn't* like their own personal shopper, even if it is virtual?

—Jim O'Brien

ACTIVE LINKS

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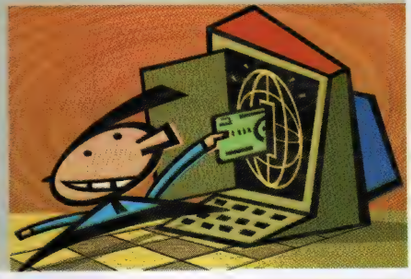
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NEWSBITS

SPEND LESS, COMPLAIN MORE? The stocks of e-commerce companies soared along with holiday shopping late last year, but so did the gripes among e-commerce customers. As a result, according to **Jupiter Communications,** only 37 percent of online shoppers say they'll spend more this year at holiday time. The majority, 58 percent, say they'll spend about the same. And 5 percent claim less spending is in store for online purchases. But things could change: It's only April, after all.

CREDIT-CARD ROULETTE First there was telephone slamming, now there's Internet cramming. The feds are investigating a new scam in which companies charge consumers' credit cards for online services and goods that were never ordered. Earlier this year, the **Federal Trade Commission** brought charges against eight businesses for fraudulent billing and the **U.S. District Court** judge issued restraining orders and froze assets, pending a further hearing. In the meantime, consumers who believe they've been similarly victimized can call the FTC hotline, 202-326-3144, for more information. ***—Tami D. Peterson***



ILLUSTRATIONS BY MICHAEL AVEITO (TOP), MARK SHAVER (BOTTOM)

WWW.WAREHOUSE.COM

Everything for PC, Mac, and LAN

MicroWarehouse offers thousands of products in four main categories: PC, Mac, Supplies, and Networking. The site is easy to navigate and offers a variety of search options.

The PC and Mac sections feature a large assortment of desktop and notebook computers and components. Computers are listed by speed, so shoppers can quickly narrow their search to just the choices within a target range. When you're buying RAM or storage, the site's "EZ selectors" display a selection of compatible memory and storage options based on information you provide about your system.

In the Networking area, you'll find anything you might need to get two or more machines talking and sharing, including servers, hubs, and cables. Order custom cables by faxing in a form or calling the hotline. Beyond these basics, you'll find everything from rack-mount enclosures and test equipment to wall plates and junction mounts. The online technical reference guide will answer any questions that come up.



The Supplies section offers copier and fax accoutrements, telephone accessories, media, and printer essentials. It also contains carrying-case and furniture sections, each with a broad array of stock.

A bevy of manufacturer stores is linked to this site, and these links can lead you to more information about products. Stock status is updated five days a week, so shoppers can be assured that the merchandise is there when they need it. And while MicroWarehouse exhibits more than 25,000 products in its online catalog, it also offers service via e-mail and phone, and technical support is accessible six days a week.

Frequent shoppers may want to subscribe to the *Online Advantage* newsletter, which notifies readers of sales and new items. You can also request any of the company's three traditional mail-order catalogs. In addition to clearance and hot-buy areas, MicroWarehouse offers daily giveaways of substantial merchandise, such as PDAs and 17-inch monitors.

In addition to mainstream consumers, MicroWarehouse reaches out to specialty markets, handling academic, government, and corporate accounts. It also offers six international Web sites servicing Canada, Sweden, Holland, France, Germany, and the United Kingdom. ▼

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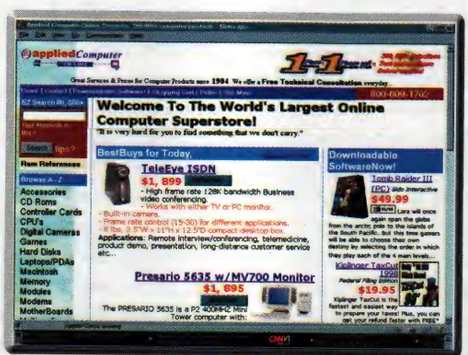
PC Shopping Sites

Access Micro.....www.accessmicro.com
When browsing the selection of merchandise at Access Micro, don't forget to check out the great weekly deals. With 45,000 items ranging from memory to T1 routers available, shoppers will enjoy perusing the variety at this searchable site. The help desk even provides aid to first-time visitors.
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Aiyamicro.....www.aiyamicro.com
Aiyamicro sells PC systems, parts, and peripherals. You can browse by category—CPUs, backup devices, monitors, and so on—but a product-search function would be a welcome addition. Aiyamicro also offers a variety of software ranging from Windows NT server software to children's titles.
Features • message boards and chat sessions • online customer service and technical support • links to manufacturers' sites
Caveat • no product-search function

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Chili Pepper Computers

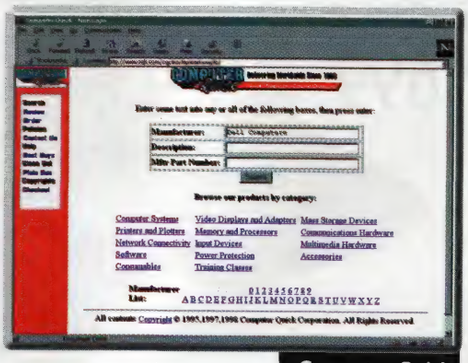
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Features • can see whether product is new, refurbished, and so on • all items include warranty • "What's New, What's Hot" newsletter
Caveat • may take up to five days to ship

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Features • can view site in 12 languages • 15 manufacturer-specific subsites, Broderbund to Viking • "PCs Under $1,000" specialty shop

Palmtastik.....**www.palmtastik.com**
Palmtastik does one thing and does it well: PalmPilot software. If you're looking for software for your Palm PDA, Palmtastik is the place to start. The site offers freeware, try-before-you-buy shareware, and buy-before-you-try commercial software. You'll find lists of the most popular programs, featuring ratings from other Palm users.
Features • comprehensive source for Palm software • highlights newest and most popular titles • displays recent uploads

PC Mall.....**www.cc-inc.com**
If you've checked your mail this month, chances are you've received at least one PC Mall catalog. Its thick, colorful catalog is chock-full of PC products. Its Web site is just as dense, home to systems, hardware, and software. Browse or search, limiting the hits by price or to in-stock items. Check the clearance rack for bottom-dollar deals.
Features • tremendous product selection for PCs and Macs • site is also home to Mac Mall • "ProductPro" wizard finds products that meet your specifications

QualityClick.com.....**www.qualityclick.com**
This Web store covers all the basics for the home PC user. Shoppers will be pleased to see the shipping charges and warranty information before placing an order; expected time until shipping is also listed.
Features • variety of customer service and tech-support options • DVD and video systems • weekly specials

Sparco.....**www.sparco.com**
Sparco makes shopping for computer equipment simple, especially for anyone in the market for a specific product. Its catalog of more than 83,000 products can be viewed by manufacturer or category, or searched by part number. Inventory numbers are updated daily, so shoppers can see not only what is in stock, but how many of each product are available.
Features • will meet or beat others' prices • downloadable catalog for offline reading • 30-day money-back guarantee on most products

State Street Direct.....**www.ssdonline.com**
State Street Direct is a division of State Street Discount in Portsmouth, N.H., which has been in business for nearly 40 years. At its Web store, shoppers will find PC hardware, peripherals, and accessories. You can view shipping cost and stock status before you place an order.
Features • technical support via telephone • e-mail service notifies subscribers when specials occur • e-list service stores your product preferences

Stroud's Winsock Applications List.....**cws.internet.com**
Stroud's Consummate Winsock Applications List is the ultimate one-stop download site for the latest and greatest in Internet software. Find and download freeware, shareware, and commercial Net software, including Web development tools, browsers, and chat clients. You'll find comprehensive file lists, ratings, and extensive reviews of Windows 3.1, Windows 95, Windows 98, and Windows NT apps.
Features • list the top 25 downloads • free e-mail summary of software updates • cool app of the week

TechShopper.....**www.techweb.com/shopper**
Knowledge is power when you're choosing computer parts, and TechShopper may give you the knowledge you need. The site offers reviews, specifications, prices, comparisons, and ratings for thousands of computer products. These details can help you find the hardware and software that's right for you. And once you make a decision, you can buy your choice with just a mouse click (and some money).
Features • online shopping tips and articles • can sell your old computer in free classified ads • free weekly newsletter

TechStore.....**www.techstore.com**
TechStore offers hardware in more than a dozen categories, ranging from CPU upgrades to storage devices. Additionally, the site offers a wide range of software: everything from Microsoft applications to the Mattel Interactive Winnie-the-Pooh. Overnight shipment is available, but TechStore's standard shipping will reach most U.S. destinations in 72 hours.
Features • competitive pricing • 30-day performance guarantee • 40,000 products



TigerDirect.....**www.tigerdirect.com**
This easy-to-navigate site offers custom-built computers, tested and shipped within 48 hours. Shoppers in the mood for their own adventure can order a build-it-yourself custom PC kit. TigerDirect also has a complete selection of ready-made desktops, laptops, memory, peripherals, and software. Blowout Central offers special prices for Web buyers on hardware, software, and more.
Features • technology guarantee provides low-cost upgrades • sign up for e-mail-only sales • can search by keyword
Caveat • difficult to calculate shipping charges

Tucows.....**www.tucows.com**
Bovine bliss: Tucows is an incredible archive of freeware and shareware. The well-organized category list makes it easy to find exactly the kind of software you're seeking. Every program is rated on a scale from one to five cows. This is one of the Net's best resources for downloadable software.
Features • Windows 3.1, Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows NT, and Mac software • all software checked for viruses • mirror sites provide fast downloads

Virtual World.....**www.virtual-world.com**
You'll find great shopping and free shipping at the Virtual World Web store. Shoppers in the market for a new computer system or just a single component will enjoy this easy-to-navigate site. Extended warranties and onsite service are a part of Virtual World's customer-satisfaction goal. Daily specials are available in every department.
Features • onsite service • extensive software collection
Caveat • photographs unavailable on many items

WebShopper.....www.webshopper.com

It's two, two, two sites in one! On the one hand, WebShopper is an online computer store with an impressive catalog of goodies for sale. On the other hand, it's a great place to research the products you're considering: The site includes product reviews and comparisons from *PC World, Home Office Computing,* and other magazines.
Features • may browse only award-winning products • select from eight free newsletters

Zones.com.....www.zones.com

Zones.com is the umbrella for two online stores, PC Zone and Mac Zone. Boasting an impressive product selection ranging from CPUs to books, the site will show you a picture of any item and its specifications, and tell you whether it is currently in stock. If you need software in a hurry, you can pay for and download commercial programs in just minutes.
Features • 50,000 products • 100,000 downloadable software titles and images • printable rebate coupons

PC Resources

Center for the Study of Services.....www.checkbook.org

Checkbook.org is operated by the Center for the Study of Services, a nonprofit consumer organization that helps consumers get the best possible prices for products and services. If you're pondering a major purchase, click on the National Bargains link, a price reference guide for more than 8,000 big-ticket consumer products. Each listing includes a target price, a realistic low price for that product.
Features • advice on how to shop for high-end items • downloadable ratings of service shops in the San Francisco Bay Area and in Washington, D.C. • can order printed HMO and hospital ratings as well as restaurant guides



eSmarts

eSmarts.....www.esmarts.com

How do you tell the gold from the garbage when shopping online? Try eSmarts, an independent guide for Web shoppers. At eSmarts' core is a collection of buying guides that delve into online computer sellers, electronics stores, auction sites, banks, and other e-commerce categories. Its reviews can clue you in about things like whether shopping for groceries online is right for you—and if so, which e-grocer will suit your needs. Other areas review free e-mail services, shopping agents, and toy sellers.
Features • advice on how to get free "stuff" via the Net • message boards

Federal Trade Commission .....www.ftc.gov

The Federal Trade Commission's Web site is packed with useful information for consumers. The content here covers the spectrum of consumer fraud and how to avoid it—online and offline. You'll become a savvy online shopper in no time. Articles cover online auctions, dealing with spam, and protecting yourself when shopping on the Net. You'll also find information about consumer issues related to the year 2000 bug.
Features • consumer's guide to cyberspace • tips on maintaining your privacy online • how to avoid credit fraud and telemarketers

56K Modem Central.....www.56k.com

Don't buy a new modem until you've visited *www.56k.com,* lest you end up with a lemon. Start with the primer on 56Kbps modems; learn the difference between K56flex, V.90, and x2 technologies; then use the "price shopper" to find a model at the best price. Once your new modem is out of the box, come back to Modem Central to download the latest firmware upgrades.
Features • buyer's guide and reviews • troubleshooting guide diagnoses common problems • buy or sell used modems with free classified ads

Help-Site .....help-site.com

Help-Site contains links to hundreds of computer-related documents and sites. It's a great place to find FAQ lists, tutorials, manuals, and official as well as unofficial support sites. You'll find documentation on DOS, Windows, OS/2, and even Unix and VAX/VMS systems. Hardware help covers modems and ISDN, scanners and digital cameras, and more. The site's maintainer opts for quality links rather than quantity: Only the most useful documents are included.
Features • noncommercial site • well-organized documentation • bad links are automatically noted

Internet ScamBusters .....www.scambusters.com

Internet ScamBusters is a Web site and a free newsletter aiming to help Net users avoid getting the shaft. Each newsletter focuses on a single type of scam, ranging from the merely annoying (such as worrisome but bogus e-mail viruses) to the downright dangerous (such as the Nigerian Advance Fee Scheme, which can leave its victims trapped in a foreign country without a visa). Scams that target online shoppers are also covered.
Features • lists the top five scams of 1998 • exposes tricks of e-mail spammers • free e-mail newsletter

ModemHelp.....www.modemhelp.com

If you use a modem, this site belongs in your bookmark list. ModemHelp provides technical support for modem users and a hearty list of links to other modem-related sites. You'll find information on upgrading to V.90 modems, tools for diagnosing problems, and discussion forums. When you need a little help, try the tutorials, where you'll find step-by-step instructions on how to install an internal modem and how to connect to the Internet with Windows.
Features • free downloadable modem-diagnostic utility • info on ISDN, cable modems, ADSL, and 56Kbps modems • discussion forums for browsers, dial-up networking, and fax modems

National Fraud Information Center .....www.fraud.org

The National Fraud Information Center is preventative medicine for those of us—particularly online users—who want to avoid being bilked. The center offers tips on identifying scholarship scams, illegal credit-repair operations, bogus travel offers, questionable sweepstakes, and other wallet-draining deceptions you may encounter online.
Features • Web credit-card safety tips • online auction advice • advice on avoiding telemarketing fraud



National Fraud Information Center

PEP ....microweb.com/pepsite/Recycle/recycle_index.html

When it's time to clear the basement of those ancient 386s and Mac Pluses, don't trash them. Instead, donate your old computers to a charity and get a tax deduction. This PEP National Directory of Computer Recycling Programs site is a directory of state, national, and international agencies that facilitate donations of used computer hardware for schools and community groups.
Features • can browse charities by state • provides contact information for each charity • directory of shopper resources

Product ReviewNet .....www.productreviewnet.com

Product ReviewNet collects abstracts of all sorts of products—including computers, appliances, sports equipment, and automobiles. Select the type of item in which you're interested, and the site displays a list of products in that category. If you would like to read the complete review, each abstract includes a citation (for magazine articles) or a link (for online reviews).
Features • find reviews of PCs, Macs, and software • 400 new abstracts every week • links to product guides available at other sites

Public Eye.....www.thepubliceye.com

Find Internet businesses that deliver the best service—and avoid the ones that don't—with Public Eye, a customer-service rating site. Public Eye uses secret shoppers who patronize Internet businesses, conducting audits and rating the service level of each business. Users can also register their opinions, positive or negative, about the online merchants they frequent.
Features • certifies online merchants • information on credit-card fraud protection • free access to customer-satisfaction database

Universal Serial Bus.....www.usb.org

The Universal Serial Bus (USB) is the new high-speed port for connecting keyboards, scanners, digital cameras, and other devices. Check this site for

technical information about the USB, answers to frequently asked questions, and information about devices that use the bus. You'll find information for end users as well as developers.
Features • you can ask questions on the message board • lists recent USB product releases • "press-room" links to relevant articles

Used Computer Mall.....www.usedcomputer.com
The Used Computer Mall is a marketplace for used computer equipment. List hardware you want to sell or find items you want to buy using its free classified ads. The site can also help you appraise the value of equipment, find dealers that specialize in many brands and types of equipment, and see what dealers have for sale.
Features • lists computer shows, equipment auctions, and swapmeets • index of nonprofit organizations accepting used-computer donations • can auction your own equipment
Caveat • cannot search classified ads

WinDrivers.com.....www.windrivers.com
WinDrivers is a comprehensive archive of drivers and DLL files for hard drives, sound cards, scanners, and other hardware. If you don't know what model of motherboard, network adapter, or sound card inhabits your PC, browse the site's photo gallery to identify it. The site even provides drivers for products from companies that have gone under, including Avatar, Logicode, Media Vision, Reveal, Spider Media, and SyQuest.
Features • daily computer news, latest driver lists • can download antivirus, compression, and other utilities • can download service packs for Microsoft software



Wireless LAN Answer Page

Wireless LAN Answer Page .....www.wirelesslan.com
This site provides an introductory tutorial to wireless local networking. In just a few pages, it clearly explains what a wireless LAN is and how you can benefit from one, as well as where to find more information. The site offers buying advice, but does not recommend specific products.
Features • introductory tutorial • links to other wireless LAN resources
Caveat • does not accept questions

World O' Windows.....www.conitech.com/windows
Frank Condron's World O' Windows is a collection of useful news, resources, and tips about current and future versions of Microsoft Windows, including Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows NT, and Windows CE. Information and user tips abound. The site can be invaluable if you're considering upgrading to Windows 98 or if your recent upgrade is causing problems. Windows NT users will want to read the site's NT guides, which cover performance-tuning, remote access, and other tricky topics.
Features • hundreds of downloadable hardware drivers • updates, patches, and resources for Microsoft Office • book reviews

Financial Services

American Century .....www.americancentury.com
Whether you are a conservative, moderate, or aggressive investor, American Century has a fund targeted at your needs. This site makes it simple to invest in your choice of more than 7,000 mutual funds. The news area includes analysis of market turbulence and how events in Washington, D.C., influence the market, as well as a quarterly newsletter.
Features • stock, bond, and option trading • retirement services • informative FAQ

Bonds Online .....www.bonds-online.com
Bonds Online offers market information about tax-free municipal bonds, treasury bonds, funds, and brokers. If you've got a specific question, check the glossary or "ask the Bond Professor" for his advice. You can also buy subscriptions to bond newsletters, and buy software that will calculate the prices and yields of your bonds.
Features • daily bond-market commentary • daily pricing of U.S. Treasury securities • U.S. savings-bond calculator and FAQ

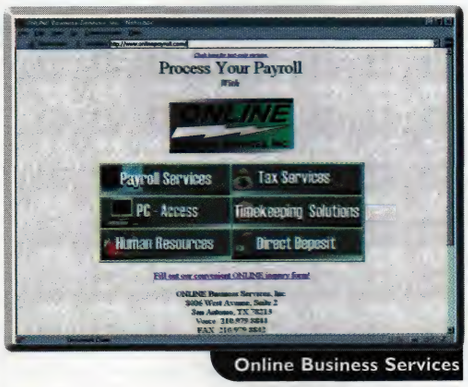
Datek Online .....www.datek.com
Investors can build their own portfolio at Datek using online resources to make educated decisions. Datek offers a guarantee of a 60-second execution, or the trade is free. Commission for all online trades is $9.99. Datek is open to individuals, custodians, investment clubs, and others. Retirement accounts are also available. Member support is available via telephone, e-mail, and fax.
Features • demo accounts available • immediate portfolio updates • free real-time quotes
Caveat • customer support can be slow

EDGAR Online.....www.edgar-online.com
If you're searching for up-to-date financial reports on companies, this is a great place to start. Look up Securities and Exchange Commission filings submitted as little as 24 hours ago. Subscribers to EDGAR Online Premium enjoy benefits such as real-time SEC filings, insider transaction filings, and customizable company watch lists.
Features • technical support via phone and e-mail • can search the SEC database • historical data dating back to 1994

ETrade.....www.etrade.com
ETrade is designed for folks who have a firm grasp of the fundamentals of investing and possess a do-it-yourself attitude. ETrade investors can learn all about companies and then build and manage a stock portfolio. Sign-up is free with a cash or margin account. Members receive a variety of services including free real-time quotes, money-market funds, and free IRAs.
Features • huge FAQ area • online game makes investing fun • live chats

Hoover's Online .....www.hoovers.com
Hoover's Online offers countless resources for financial research. Free tools include IPO Central, offering information on companies that have filed to go public with a stock offering; and Stock Screener, a tool for choosing stocks based on 20 performance criteria. Subscribers receive access to company profiles, in-depth financial reports, and powerful searching tools.
Features • 3,500 company profiles • SEC documents available in real time • daily financial headlines

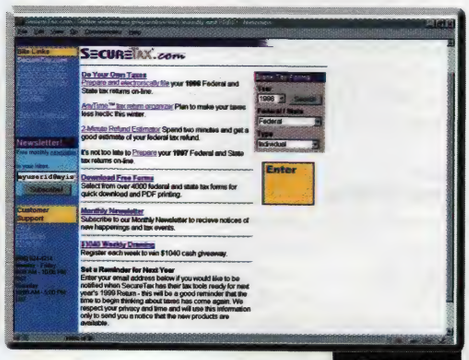
National Payment Corp.....www.directdeposit.com
Since 1991, National Payment Corp. has been providing direct-deposit services for small and medium-size businesses. Using a secure Web browser, you can submit payroll for direct deposit to your employees' bank accounts. The site can exchange data with more than two-dozen accounting software programs.
Features • demo accounts available • Web-based technical support • online glossary and FAQ



Online Business Services

Online Business Services.....www.onlinepayroll.com
This flexible personnel-tracking system will help any business become more efficient and in some cases even get better financial reports—more than 80 standard reports are available. Online Payroll can receive input via telephone, modem, fax, or direct link with your electronic time clock. Paychecks can be sent via direct deposit or via modem for printing at your site, or be delivered.
Features • track your company assets • tax services • no business too small

PostOffice.Net.....www.postoffice.net
Many small and medium-size businesses are making the choice to outsource e-mail service for their employees. PostOffice.Net, a division of USA.NET, offers complete e-mail service including customer support for your business. The long list of standard and premium features includes necessities such as spell checking and vacation reply, as well as luxuries like language translation.
Features • personalized domain names • free customization options • mail forwarding



SecureTax

Quicken.com .....www.quicken.com/small_business
This site offers copious information for small-business owners. You'll find insightful articles on accounting, payroll, and taxes. Check the benefit and retirement page to learn how to choose an IRA, create an employee-benefit policy, or provide health insurance. The site also offers a business-oriented buyer's guide and downloadable business documents you can customize.
Features • weekly columns and expert advice • business headlines • you can buy accounting software, stamps, and checks

SecureTax.....www.securetax.com
With SecureTax, you can prepare, electronically file, and print federal and state tax returns. The site walks you through the steps of preparing 1040 or 1040EZ tax forms using helpful wizards. Because you can save your progress at any time, you don't have to complete your return in one session.
Features • two-minute refund estimator • free newsletter offers notice of tax news and events • 4,000 federal and state tax forms available for download

StockMaster .....www.stockmaster.com
Stock traders will find this site an invaluable reference tool. StockMaster will tell you the trading price and all the sundry details about any stock or investment fund, and provide instant graphs of that stock's activity. Track the stock's rise and fall over the past year and see other investors' opinions about that company. A subscription service provides access to Baseline Company Profiles of more than 7,000 companies.
Features • catalog of books for beginning and expert investors • can create custom investment profiles • message boards for investment discussions

Virtual Payroll.....www.virtualpayroll.com
Available in all 50 states, Virtual Payroll simplifies the endless cycle of payroll and taxes for small businesses. Through this secure site, company and employee information is entered to set up initial payroll accounts, then with periodic input, all other functions are taken care of for you. All your employees will be paid by direct deposit within 48 hours.
Features • references available • preparation and filing of quarterly and annual payroll tax returns • helpful FAQ

Wall Street Research Net .....www.wsrn.com
For sheer mass of investment links, you can't beat Wall Street Research Net. This site offers thousands of links to help professional and private investors perform research on companies and mutual funds, and to locate important economic data that moves markets. For a fee, brokerage reports, historical stock-price data, baseline reports, and financial reports in spreadsheet format are available.
Features • investment chat • stock screener • links to publications on economy, equity, and markets

Travel and Leisure

Biztravel.....www.biztravel.com
Plan your trip; research your destination; and make airline, car, and hotel reservations. Catering to the business traveler, Biztravel offers unique services for the frequent traveler, including predeparture pager alerts, which send gate information and destination weather reports to your alphanumeric pager. Biztravel also lets you download your itinerary to your palmtop or desktop calendar program.
Features • track frequent-flyer miles automatically • automated upgrades make getting a first-class seat easier • online magazine

Cruise Web.....www.cruiseweb.com
With most of the world as a potential destination and 11 cruise lines from which to choose, using this site may be the easiest choice you make while planning your next vacation. Shoppers can look at itineraries based on destination or preferred cruise line. Check out photographs of the ship and its room accommodations. The Hot Rates e-mail service gives information on the deepest discounts.
Features • special-offer area displays great deals
Caveat • not all cruise lines are listed

Easy Sabre .....www.easysabre.com
Easy Sabre is the oldest computer reservation system available to the public. It's powerful: You can book a flight on 400 airlines, rent a car from any of 50 companies, or book a room in 40,000 hotels. The service is accessible only via a text interface, and there's a handy reference guide to show you the basics.
Features • zoom in on the three lowest fares • receive tickets by mail or pick up at local travel agent • store frequent-flyer numbers and meal preferences
Caveat • nonintuitive command interface

Excite Travel.....www.city.net
No matter where you're headed, Excite Travel is a great place to start your online travel research. This site offers copious information on just about any earthbound place you can name. Type in the name of a city, a state, or a country, or just zoom in using the world map, and Excite Travel will provide detailed maps, information on lodging, regional news, weather info, and more. When you're ready, you can book a flight.
Features • frequent-flyer mileage minder • insider's guide to renting a car • restaurant-review finder

Expedia.....expedia.msn.com
Folks looking for travel information here will have to register as members, but there is no fee to do so. Expedia offers a vast travel network, and planning your next business trip or vacation should be a breeze. Whether you are looking for details on cruises and resorts, or are going cross-country on Amtrak, you can book your trip here.
Features • online travel magazine • sports and adventure packages • luggage and accessories sold
Caveat • lengthy registration process

Flifo .....www.flifo.com
Flifo is a Web-based travel service you can use to examine airline schedules, rental-car options, and hotel availability, and then purchase tickets, rent an auto, and book your accommodations. If your travel plans are flexible enough to accommodate some restrictions, you may be able to find discounted international airfares. Help is available at every step, and e-mail technical support is available during business hours.
Features • available in the U.S., Canada, U.K, and Australia • airline tickets delivered in two days • can check to see if a flight is on time



Global Online Travel

Global Online Travel .....www.got.com
This diverse site not only helps you find the best deal on airfare, but can help you find dinner once you arrive at your destination. Shoppers with a credit card can make instant reservations for air travel, rental cars, and hotels. Vacation packages are available, or you can design your own. The Global Spotlight section offers information on myriad topics ranging from spa vacations to flying with pets.
Features • one-stop vacation planning • can browse restaurants throughout the U.S. and Japan • information on major chains and regional providers

1travel www.1travel.com
The 1travel site offers all the traditional travel options, plus a lot more. It boasts a huge variety of specialty vacations, and a wide array of options in destinations and lodging. Check out your travel options such as train trips, cruises, or escorted tours. See all the lodging options, apartments, B&Bs, and even spas. The 1travel site has all the traditional travel options, plus a lot more.
Features • historical tours • adventure vacations • you can chat with other travelers

Preview Travel .....www.previewtravel.com
Thinking about a cruise? Looking for a low car-rental rate? Preview Travel helps shoppers in the market for a vacation to check out all their options and find some good deals. This versatile, easy-to-navigate site lets you book the trip you want, whether it's a short flight to visit relatives or a cruise through the Panama Canal.

ELECTRONICS.NET

A Consumer-Electronics Behemoth

A joint venture between Tops Appliance City and CyberShop International, electronics.net offers a behemoth selection of consumer-electronics merchandise. Tops Appliance provides products from more than 200 manufacturers, and CyberShop organizes it all into a snazzy, searchable, and secure site.

Browsing electronics.net, shoppers will find everything from camcorders to trash compactors. Home electronics is the main focus, and the site offers thousands of choices in more than a dozen departments. PCs, components, and computer accessories are also available.

Electronics.net provides customer service via e-mail, telephone, and fax. If you find the same item at a lower price within 10 days of your order, electronics.net's 110 percent guarantee will kick into action: Prove that you found a better price, and you'll get the item at 10 percent less than the competitor's. The reward program tenders savings certificates based on the amount you spend: Every dollar earns 10 spending points.



Free shipping is offered for some merchandise priced over $100. Federal Express shipping is standard on most items, with large or bulky appliances being the exception. Unfortunately, shipping charges are not automatically calculated when you place your order. ▼

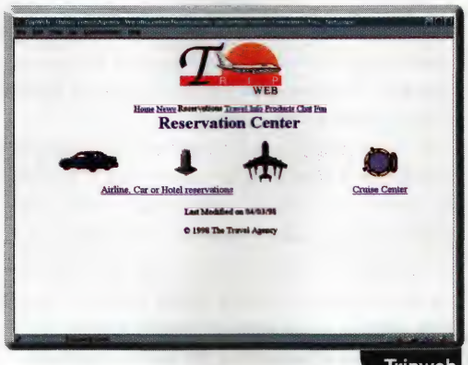
Features • weekly travel tips • handy weather center • help with currency conversion

Travel Channel .....www.travelchannel.com
Brought to us by the cable channel of the same name, Travel Channel offers pointers to vacation-information sites, travel newsletters, television-program listings, and a chat area. The shopping area offers CD-ROMs, books, and videos for travelers. Before you leave, check the links to comprehensive global health news and immunization information, travel advisories, and information on customs requirements.
Features • world maps • airfare prices • currency converter

Travelocity .....www.travelocity.com
Shoppers can plan almost every aspect of a business or a leisure trip at this Web-based travel agency. Travelocity provides secure online transactions for air, car, and hotel reservations, plus access to a vast database of travel information. At this one site, you can research potential destinations, find a bed and breakfast, make your reservations, and find a deal on a rental car. There's also a currency converter.
Features • 275-country travel guide • hotel maps and photos • Cruise Critic offers independent cruise reviews

TravelScape .....www.travelscape.com
Bad-weather blues? At TravelScape, you can check out the weather at the destination of your choice and then book a trip there. Simply choose from TravelScape's selection of major U.S. cities, then pick the dates of your vacation—it is really that easy. This Web-based travel store outlines the options and lets you determine your exact itinerary.
Features • vacation packages • no-risk reservation guarantee • around-the-clock customer service via telephone

TravelWeb .....www.travelweb.com
You can book your flight, rent a car, and find a hotel room with TravelWeb. Your next stop can be to visit the site's Traveler Resources area, where you will find online catalogs purveying luggage and other travel essentials. Once you're packed, use the site to check the weather at your destination and print maps.
Features • can search for hotels by city, amenity, price range, and other criteria • make and cancel reservations • special travel-offer mailing list



Tripweb

Tripweb .....www.tripweb.com
You can book your own airline, car, and hotel reservations with Tripweb. When you make an airline reservation, you are able to find out what type of aircraft you'll be on and even choose your seat. Before sending your ticket, a travel agent will review your reservation to assure you've found the best possible fare.
Features • request a cruise quote • $100,000 flight insurance on every airline ticket • free ticket delivery

Yahoo Travel .....travel.yahoo.com
With Yahoo Travel, you can research your next trip by destination (just click somewhere interesting on the world map), activity (such as cruises, adventure tours, and sports), or interest (everything from swimming with dolphins to paranormal phenomenon). When you're ready, book a flight, car, and hotel room.
Features • research cruises and package vacations • travel chat and message boards • can view travel alerts and airfare news

Consumer Electronics

Consumer Direct Warehouse ....www.consumer-direct.com
Shopping for something simple, such as a surge protector? Or complicated, like home air conditioning? Either way, Consumer Direct Warehouse can provide a diverse selection of brands and styles to explore. This Web store simplifies shipping by listing options and prices with each item. The product categories include a variety of home electronics such as DVD players, microwave ovens, and vacuum cleaners.
Features • Web TV systems and accessories • weekly specials • customer service via telephone or e-mail

Crutchfield .....www.crutchfield.com
Whether you are interested in setting up a home theater or are in the market for a nifty car stereo, Crutchfield should have what you need. The library area contains lots of helpful information and tips. The Vehicle Selector takes the guesswork out of car-stereo shopping by showing all the models that will fit your vehicle.
Features • can search by brand or product type • online specials offer deep discounts • two-day delivery on all items

electronics.net .....www.electronics.net
See the extended listing on this page.

Wholesale Connection ...www.wholesaleconnection.com
This Web store offers a breadth of home and car electronics. For instance, the selection of telephones ranges from Harley Davidson desktop phones to 900MHz cordless models. Wholesale Connection carries more than 100 brands, and shoppers can call or e-mail if they cannot find a specific item.
Features • complete line of car-stereo components • monthly specials • e-mail technical support

Books and Music

Amazon.com.....www.amazon.com
Amazon's catalog of books, CDs, and videos is nothing short of gargantuan. Speedy searches and insightful recommendations make it easy to find what you're seeking, even if you don't know for sure what that is.
Features • one-stop shopping for books, CDs, and videos • personalized recommendations • reviews and RealAudio music previews

Barnes and Noble .....www.barnesandnoble.com
With millions of titles in its easy-to-search catalog, Barnes and Noble's Web site is a book-lover's

dream. If the book you are looking for is out of print, don't despair: It may be available through Barnes and Noble's association with used-book sellers across the United States.
Features • extraordinary library of in-print books • may be able to locate out-of-print books • easy to search

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CDNow started selling compact discs on the Internet before "e-commerce" was part of the national lexicon. Its online store started years ago with a low-tech telnet connection, but has grown with the times—this mega-site now offers an extensive catalog of titles. Many discs have RealAudio sound clips and reviews for previewing online before you buy. Once it learns your musical taste, the Album Advisor will point you to other bands you're likely to enjoy.
Features • huge catalog of CDs, tapes, and vinyl • you can check out cover art • personalized music recommendations

K-TEL .....www.ktel.com
The words "as seen on TV" pretty much sum up K-TEL. The company that brought us commercials for the Bacon Krisper and Veg-O-Matic kitchen gadgets, not to mention countless party tapes, is now "as seen on the Web." You can choose from a variety of compilation CDs or create your own CD, mixing and matching from K-TEL's vast catalog of artists. You won't find an offer like that on TV.
Features • create your own CD for $10 • $3 CDs in the bargain bin

Music Boulevard .....www.musicblvd.com
Your music tastes may be strictly classical or eclectic—either way, this site has CDs to suit them. Search for a favorite artist and view a list of available CDs. The site can also help you discover other music you'll love by listing related groups and musicians that influenced your favorite artists.
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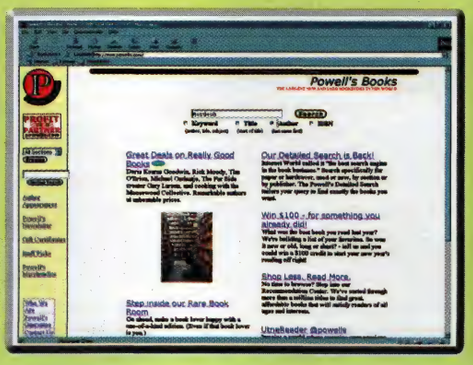
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HOW TO BUY ONLINE

BY KEVIN SAVETZ

At its best, online shopping offers a convenient cornucopia of choices, and saves you time and money. At its worst, it's a daunting, quasi-risky endeavor requiring you to scour scores of sites for the best value and send your credit-card number into the ether. Here are some online shopping basics to help you get the best deals, and to make sure your privacy and financial security remain intact.

WHERE AND HOW TO BUY ONLINE

To find online stores peddling what you want, query Web-based search engines—such as Snap.com's or Yahoo's—on a keyword, or turn to a compiled list like these e-Shopping pages.

Online stores meld the convenience of catalog ordering with some of the interaction and responsiveness of retail shopping. Unique to this commercial medium is the vendor's ability to customize what product selection you see and to notify you of special offers likely to pique your interest. Online stores range in scope from small specialty-item outfits to large mega-stores offering loads of products from competing manufacturers.

In terms of the mechanics, many use virtual shopping carts, to which you add items as you peruse the site. You then have the opportunity to review your choices at "checkout."

An increasingly popular Internet shopping option is the online auction. Each auction site is governed by its own procedures and protocols—and you want to be absolutely clear on these before you participate. It's a good idea to read the rules and directions, check with the Better Business Bureau, and observe a few auctions before you get involved in online bidding. Be aware that some companies use auctions to liquidate demonstration, refurbished, or older units.

PROTECTING YOURSELF

Buying online is safe if you take basic precautions. Order only from reputable online stores. If it's a merchant you haven't heard of or used offline, check with the Better Business Bureau (*www.bbbonline.com*) and Public Eye (*www.thepubliceye.com*).

Before placing an order, make sure you're clear on the purveyor's policies regarding ordering, shipping, and returns. A credit card is the safest way to pay for online purchases. Make sure the Web site with which you're transacting supports your browser's built-in encryption—with the Secure Sockets Layer (SSL), so your account number is protected. A locked-padlock icon at the bottom of your browser window indicates a secure, encrypted connection. Finally, never send your credit-card number in an e-mail message.

GETTING THE BEST DEAL

Merchants with an online storefront pay less in overhead and usually pass those savings on to you. So you can find lots of low prices online. There are numerous sites with shopping bots and custom search tools to help you find the lowest of these. Three good ones to try out are bottomdollar (*www.bottomdollar.com*), Excite Product Finder (*jango.excite.com*), and mySimon (*www.mysimon.com*). For computer hardware and software, visit our own computershopper.com or CNET Shopper.com at *cnet.shopper.com*. It pays to visit more than one of these sites, as you may find a deal with one that the others don't uncover.

But remember that there's more to savvy shopping than finding the best price. A seemingly good deal can rapidly evaporate in the face of excessive shipping charges, handling fees, or sales tax, or the lack of a reasonable return policy. The best sites will tell you about these charges and policies before you buy. ▼

Intel Celeron®400 Bundle



Abit BX6 Revision 2 Motherboard
64MB PC100 Memory
Intel 400MHz Celeron® Processor
Diamond Monster Fusion 16MB Video Card

$539

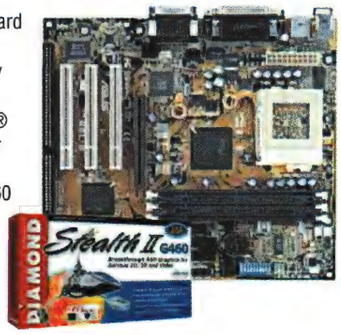
Celeron® Socket 370 Bundle

ASUS MEL-M Motherboard

64MB PC100 Memory

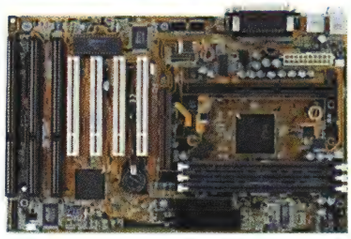
Intel 366MHz Celeron® Socket 370 Processor

Diamond Stealth II G460 8MB Video Card



$399

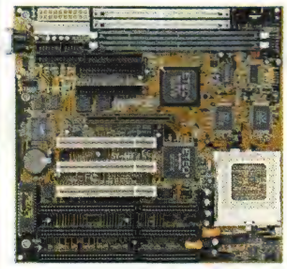
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ASUS P2B Motherboard
128MB PC100 Memory
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AMD K6-2 350MHz Processor
ASUS AGPV3400 TNT w/TV out Video Card

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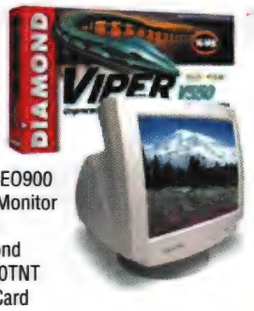


IBM Ultrastar GXP
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IDE Hard Drive

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CD-ROM Drive.

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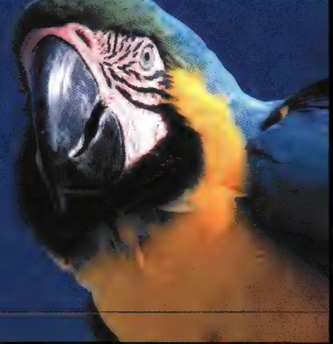
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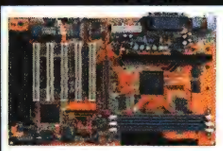
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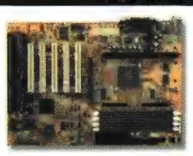


$109

- Intel 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-400 MHz processor support
- 2 ISA Slots, 5 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 3x DIMM Sockets support SDRAM module
- 384MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse & Keyboard, IrDA
- ATX Form Factor.
- Ultra DMA/33 support, Supports ACPI.

WITHOUT CPU	**$109**
w/ Intel Celeron 300MHz Chip w/128K	$199
w/ Intel Celeron 333MHz Chip w/128K	$209
w/ Intel Celeron 366MHz Chip w/128K	$269
w/ Intel Celeron 400MHz Chip w/128K	$299
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip	$319
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$339
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$449
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip	$669
w/ Intel Pentium® II 500MHz Chip	$929

ABIT BX6r2

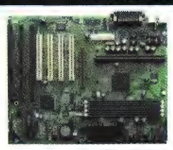


$139

- Intel 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-450 MHz processor support
- 2 ISA Slots, 5 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 4x DIMM Sockets
- 512MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse & Keyboard, IrDA
- ATX Form Factor.
- Ultra DMA/33 support.

WITHOUT CPU	**$139**
w/ Intel Celeron 300MHz Chip w/128K	$229
w/ Intel Celeron 333MHz Chip w/128K	$239
w/ Intel Celeron 366MHz Chip w/128K	$299
w/ Intel Celeron 400MHz Chip w/128K	$329
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip	$349
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$369
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$479
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip	$699
w/ Intel Pentium® II 500MHz Chip	$959

AOPEN AX6B

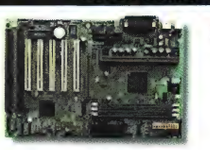


$129

- Intel 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-400 MHz processor
- 3 ISA Slots, 4 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 4x DIMM Sockets
- 1GB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, 1 Floppy
- ATX Form Factor. Size: 9.6" x12"
- Ultra DMA/33 support, LAN Wake Up.

WITHOUT CPU	**$129**
w/ Intel Celeron 300MHz Chip w/128K	$219
w/ Intel Celeron 333MHz Chip w/128K	$229
w/ Intel Celeron 366MHz Chip w/128K	$289
w/ Intel Celeron 400MHz Chip w/128K	$319
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip	$339
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$359
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$469
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip	$689
w/ Intel Pentium® II 500MHz Chip	$949

AOPEN AX6BC



$115

- Intel 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-450 MHz processor support
- 2 ISA Slots, 5 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 3x DIMM Sockets
- 768MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 1 Floppy, 2 USB Ports
- ATX form factor. 224mm x 305mm
- Ultra DMA/33 Bus Master IDE support.

WITHOUT CPU	**$115**
w/ Intel Celeron 300MHz Chip w/128K	$205
w/ Intel Celeron 333MHz Chip w/128K	$215
w/ Intel Celeron 366MHz Chip w/128K	$275
w/ Intel Celeron 400MHz Chip w/128K	$305
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip	$325
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$345
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$455
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip	$675
w/ Intel Pentium® II 500MHz Chip	$935

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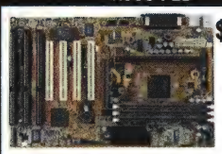


$289

- Intel 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-450 MHz processor
- 3 ISA Slots, 4 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 4x DIMM Sockets
- 1GB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 1 Floppy, 2 USB Ports
- ATX form factor. 244mm x 305mm
- Adaptec AHA-7880P Ultra Wide SCSI Controller.

WITHOUT CPU	**$289**
w/ Intel Celeron 300MHz Chip w/128K	$379
w/ Intel Celeron 333MHz Chip w/128K	$389
w/ Intel Celeron 366MHz Chip w/128K	$449
w/ Intel Celeron 400MHz Chip w/128K	$479
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip	$499
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$519
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$629
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip	$849
w/ Intel Pentium® II 500MHz Chip	$1109

ASUS P2B



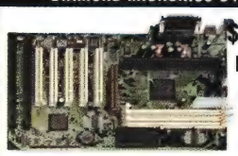
$149

- Intel 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-400 MHz processor support
- 3 ISA Slots, 4 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 3x DIMM Sockets
- 768MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse& Keyboard, IrDA
- ATX Form Factor. 7.5" x 12"
- Dual Ultra DMA/33 IDE Ports support.

ASUS P2BS for $355, ASUS P2B-B for $145
ASUS P2BL for $195, ASUS P2BLS for $399

WITHOUT CPU	**$149**
w/ Intel Celeron 300MHz Chip w/128K	$239
w/ Intel Celeron 333MHz Chip w/128K	$249
w/ Intel Celeron 366MHz Chip w/128K	$309
w/ Intel Celeron 400MHz Chip w/128K	$339
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip	$359
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$379
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$489
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip	$709
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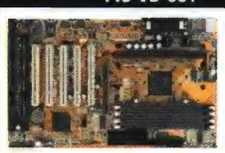


$129

- Intel 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-450 MHz, Celeron® 233-333 MHz
- 2 ISA Slots, 5 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot, 1 shared PCI/ISA Slot
- 3x DIMM Sockets
- 768MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse & Keyboard, IrDA
- ATX Form Factor.
- Slot 1 100MHz. Ultra DMA/33 support.

WITHOUT CPU	**$129**
w/ Intel Celeron 300MHz Chip w/128K	$219
w/ Intel Celeron 333MHz Chip w/128K	$229
w/ Intel Celeron 366MHz Chip w/128K	$289
w/ Intel Celeron 400MHz Chip w/128K	$319
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip	$339
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$359
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$469
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip	$689
w/ Intel Pentium® II 500MHz Chip	$949

FIC VB-601



$99

- Intel 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 266-450 MHz processor support
- 2 ISA Slots, 5 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 4x DIMM Sockets
- 1GB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse& Keyboard, IrDA
- ATX form factor. 12" x 7.98"
- Ultra DMA/33 support, PCI 2.1 compliant.

WITHOUT CPU	**$99**
w/ Intel Celeron 300MHz Chip w/128K	$189
w/ Intel Celeron 333MHz Chip w/128K	$199
w/ Intel Celeron 366MHz Chip w/128K	$259
w/ Intel Celeron 400MHz Chip w/128K	$289
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip	$309
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$329
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$439
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip	$659
w/ Intel Pentium® II 500MHz Chip	$919

INTEL SE440BX

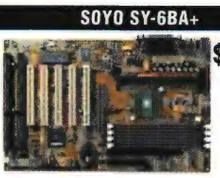


$149

- Intel 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-400 MHz processor support
- 1 ISA Slots, 3 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot, 1 shared PCI/ISA slot
- 3x DIMM Sockets
- 384MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse/Keyboard, IrDA
- ATX Form Factor 7.75"x 12"
- Accelerated Graphics Port/ Ultra DMA/33 supported.

WITHOUT CPU	**$149**
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w/ Intel Celeron 333MHz Chip w/128K	$249
w/ Intel Celeron 366MHz Chip w/128K	$309
w/ Intel Celeron 400MHz Chip w/128K	$339
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip	$359
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$379
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$489
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip	$709
w/ Intel Pentium® II 500MHz Chip	$969

SOYO SY-6BA+



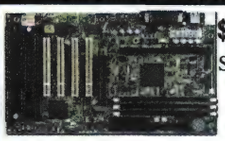
$119

- Intel 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-450Mhz, Celeron® 233-333MHz
- 2 ISA Slots, 5 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot, 1 shared PCI/ISA
- 4x DIMM Sockets
- 1GB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse/ Keyboard, IrDA
- 4-layer PCB, 12" x 7.5". ATX Form Factor.
- Two Ultra DMA/33 IDE ports, on-board Ultra I/O Chip.

Also available SOYO SY-6BB for $115

WITHOUT CPU	**$119**
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w/ Intel Celeron 333MHz Chip w/128K	$219
w/ Intel Celeron 366MHz Chip w/128K	$279
w/ Intel Celeron 400MHz Chip w/128K	$309
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip	$329
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$349
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$459
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip	$679
w/ Intel Pentium® II 500MHz Chip	$939

SUPERMICRO P6SBA

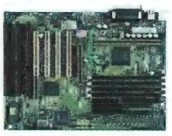


$119

- Intel 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-400 MHz processor support
- 3 ISA Slots, 4 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 3x DIMM Sockets
- 384MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse & Keyboard, IrDA
- ATX Form Factor 12" x 7"
- Ultra DMA/33 support.

WITHOUT CPU	**$119**
w/ Intel Celeron 300MHz Chip w/128K	$209
w/ Intel Celeron 333MHz Chip w/128K	$219
w/ Intel Celeron 366MHz Chip w/128K	$279
w/ Intel Celeron 400MHz Chip w/128K	$309
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip	$329
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$349
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$459
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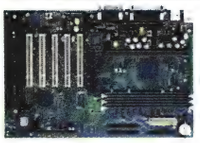


$325

- Intel 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-400 MHz processor support
- 3 ISA Slots, 4 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 4x DIMM Sockets
- 512MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse & Keyboard, IrDA
- ATX Form Factor 12" x 8.872"
- Adaptec 7895 Dual Channel UW SCSI 80MB/s.

WITHOUT CPU	**$325**
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w/ Intel Celeron 366MHz Chip w/128K	$485
w/ Intel Celeron 400MHz Chip w/128K	$515
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip	$535
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$555
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$665
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip	$885
w/ Intel Pentium® II 500MHz Chip	$1145

TYAN S1846S



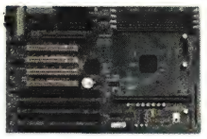
$119

- Intel 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-400 MHz processor support
- 2 ISA Slots, 5 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 3x DIMM Sockets
- 768MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse & Keyboard, IrDA
- Single ATX Design. 8.3 x 12.0"
- Dual Ultra DMA/33 IDE Ports support.

Also available TYAN S1832DL for $219

WITHOUT CPU	**$119**
w/ Intel Celeron 300MHz Chip w/128K	$209
w/ Intel Celeron 333MHz Chip w/128K	$219
w/ Intel Celeron 366MHz Chip w/128K	$279
w/ Intel Celeron 400MHz Chip w/128K	$309
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip	$329
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$349
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$459
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip	$679
w/ Intel Pentium® II 500MHz Chip	$939

TYAN S1830S

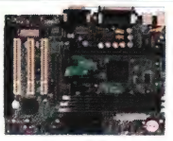


$139

- Intel 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-450MHz or Celeron processor
- 4 ISA , 4 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot, 1 Shared PCI/ISA Slot
- 4x DIMM Sockets
- 1024MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse, IrDA
- Baby AT Design. 13" x 8.6"
- Ultra DMA/33 PCI EIDE & Super I/O.

WITHOUT CPU	**$139**
w/ Intel Celeron 300MHz Chip w/128K	$229
w/ Intel Celeron 333MHz Chip w/128K	$239
w/ Intel Celeron 366MHz Chip w/128K	$299
w/ Intel Celeron 400MHz Chip w/128K	$329
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip	$349
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$369
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$479
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip	$699
w/ Intel Pentium® II 500MHz Chip	$959

TYAN S1894SLA



$139

- Intel 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-450MHz or Celeron processor
- 1 ISA Slots, 3 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 3x DIMM Sockets
- 768MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse & Keyboard, IrDA
- ATX Design. 7.5" x 9"
- Ultra DMA/33 PCI EIDE & Super I/O.

WITHOUT CPU	**$139**
w/ Intel Celeron 300MHz Chip w/128K	$229
w/ Intel Celeron 333MHz Chip w/128K	$239
w/ Intel Celeron 366MHz Chip w/128K	$299
w/ Intel Celeron 400MHz Chip w/128K	$329
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip	$349
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$369
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$479
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip	$699
w/ Intel Pentium® II 500MHz Chip	$959

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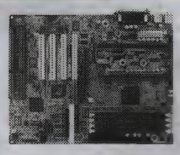
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Pentium® II Dual BX Chipset Motherboards

ASUS P2B-D



Dual $309

ASUS

- Intel 100MHz 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-400 MHz processor support
- Single or Dual Pentium® II 233, 266, 300, 333,400
- 2 ISA Slots, 4 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 4x DIMM Sockets
- 1GB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse & Keyboard
- ATX Form Factor 9.56" x 12"
- Dual Ultra DMA/33 IDE Ports support.

Also available ASUS P2B-DS for $509

WITHOUT CPU..... $309

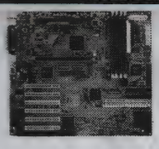
With Single Pentium®II installed:

w/ Intel Celeron® 300MHz Chip w/128K..... $399
w/ Intel Celeron® 333MHz Chip w/128K..... $409
w/ Intel Celeron® 366MHz Chip w/128K..... $469
w/ Intel Celeron® 400MHz Chip w/128K..... $499
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip..... $519
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip..... $539
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip..... $649
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip..... $869
w/ Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip..... $1129

With Dual Pentium®II installed:

w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip..... $729
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip..... $769
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip..... $989
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip..... $1429
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip..... $1949

ASUS P2B-D2



Dual $889

ASUS

- Intel 100MHz 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-450 MHz processor support
- Single or Dual Pentium® II 233, 266, 300, 333,400, 450
- 1 ISA Slots, 3 Primary PCI Slots, 3 Secondary PCI Slots
- 4x DIMM Sockets
- 1GB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse & Keyboard, IrDA
- Full-sized AT Form Factor. 12" x 14"
- Adaptec® 7890 & 3860 SCSI controllers.

WITHOUT CPU..... $889

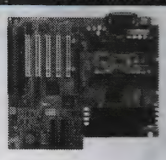
With Single Pentium®II installed:

w/ Intel Celeron® 300MHz Chip w/128K..... $979
w/ Intel Celeron® 333MHz Chip w/128K..... $989
w/ Intel Celeron® 366MHz Chip w/128K..... $1049
w/ Intel Celeron® 400MHz Chip w/128K..... $1079
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip..... $1099
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip..... $1119
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip..... $1229
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip..... $1449
w/ Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip..... $1709

With Dual Pentium®II installed:

w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip..... $1309
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip..... $1349
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip..... $1569
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip..... $2009
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip..... $2529

SUPERMICRO P6DBU



Dual $469

SUPER

- Intel 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-400 MHz processor support
- Single or Dual Pentium® II 233, 266, 300, 333,400
- 2 ISA Slots, 5 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 4x DIMM Sockets
- 1GB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse &Keyboard, IrDA
- ATX Form Factor 12" x 9.6"
- Adaptec 7890 Ultra2SCSI 80MB/s.

WITHOUT CPU..... $469

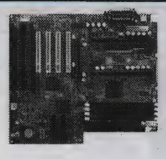
With Single Pentium®II installed:

w/ Intel Celeron® 300MHz Chip w/128K..... $559
w/ Intel Celeron® 333MHz Chip w/128K..... $569
w/ Intel Celeron® 366MHz Chip w/128K..... $629
w/ Intel Celeron® 400MHz Chip w/128K..... $659
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip..... $679
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip..... $699
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip..... $809
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip..... $1029
w/ Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip..... $1289

With Dual Pentium®II installed:

w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip..... $889
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip..... $929
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip..... $1149
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip..... $1589
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip..... $2109

SUPERMICRO P6DBS



Dual $415

SUPER

- Intel 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-400 MHz processor support
- Single or Dual Pentium® II 233, 266, 300, 333,400
- 3 ISA Slots, 4 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 4x DIMM Sockets
- 1GB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse & Keyboard, IrDA
- ATX Form Factor 12" x 10.2"
- Adaptec 7895 Dual Channel UW SCSI 80MB/s.

WITHOUT CPU..... $415

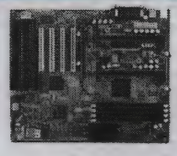
With Single Pentium®II installed:

w/ Intel Celeron® 300MHz Chip w/128K..... $505
w/ Intel Celeron® 333MHz Chip w/128K..... $515
w/ Intel Celeron® 366MHz Chip w/128K..... $575
w/ Intel Celeron® 400MHz Chip w/128K..... $605
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip..... $625
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip..... $645
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip..... $755
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip..... $975
w/ Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip..... $1235

With Dual Pentium®II installed:

w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip..... $835
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip..... $875
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip..... $1095
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip..... $1535
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip..... $2055

SUPERMICRO P6DBE



Dual $205

SUPER

- Intel 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-400 MHz processor support
- Single or Dual Pentium® II 233, 266, 300, 333,400
- 3 ISA Slots, 4 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 4x DIMM Sockets
- 1GB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse & Keyboard, IrDA
- ATX Form Factor 12" x 10.2"
- Ultra DMA/33 support.

WITHOUT CPU..... $205

With Single Pentium®II installed:

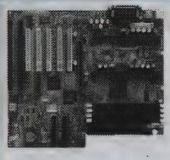
w/ Intel Celeron® 300MHz Chip w/128K..... $295
w/ Intel Celeron® 333MHz Chip w/128K..... $305
w/ Intel Celeron® 366MHz Chip w/128K..... $365
w/ Intel Celeron® 400MHz Chip w/128K..... $395
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip..... $415
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip..... $435
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip..... $545
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip..... $765
w/ Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip..... $1025

With Dual Pentium®II installed:

w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip..... $625
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip..... $665
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip..... $885
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip..... $1325
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip..... $1845

GX Chipset for Pentium® II & Celeron® Motherboards

SUPERMICRO P6DGU



Dual $509

SUPER

- Intel 440GX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-450 MHz processor support
- Single or Dual Pentium® II 233, 266, 300, 333, 350, 400, 450MHz
- 2 ISA Slots, 5 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 4x DIMM Sockets
- 2GB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse, PS/2 Keyboard, IrDA
- ATX Form Factor 12" x 9.65"

WITHOUT CPU..... $509

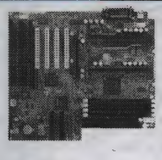
With Single Pentium® II installed:

w/ Intel Celeron® 300MHz Chip w/128K..... $599
w/ Intel Celeron® 333MHz Chip w/128K..... $609
w/ Intel Celeron® 366MHz Chip w/128K..... $669
w/ Intel Celeron® 400MHz Chip w/128K..... $699
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip..... $719
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip..... $739
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip..... $849
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip..... $1069
w/ Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip..... $1329

With Dual Pentium® II installed:

w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip..... $929
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip..... $969
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip..... $1189
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip..... $1629
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip..... $2149

SUPERMICRO P6DGS



Dual $459

SUPER

- Intel 440GX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-450 MHz processor support
- Single or Dual Pentium® II 233, 266, 300, 333, 350, 400, 450MHz
- 3 ISA Slots, 4 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 4x DIMM Sockets
- 2GB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse, PS/2 Keyboard, IrDA
- ATX Form Factor 12" x 9.65"

WITHOUT CPU..... $459

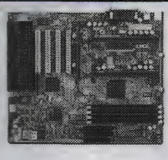
With Single Pentium® II installed:

w/ Intel Celeron® 300MHz Chip w/128K..... $549
w/ Intel Celeron® 333MHz Chip w/128K..... $559
w/ Intel Celeron® 366MHz Chip w/128K..... $619
w/ Intel Celeron® 400MHz Chip w/128K..... $649
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip..... $669
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip..... $689
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip..... $799
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip..... $1019
w/ Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip..... $1279

With Dual Pentium® II installed:

w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip..... $879
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip..... $919
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip..... $1139
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip..... $1579
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip..... $2099

SUPERMICRO P6DGE



Dual $269

SUPER

- Intel 440GX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-450 MHz processor support
- Single or Dual Pentium® II 233, 266, 300, 333, 350, 400, 450MHz
- 2 ISA Slots, 5 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 4x DIMM Sockets
- 2GB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse, PS/2 Keyboard, IrDA
- ATX Form Factor 12" x 9.6"

WITHOUT CPU..... $269

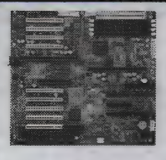
With Single Pentium® II installed:

w/ Intel Celeron® 300MHz Chip w/128K..... $359
w/ Intel Celeron® 333MHz Chip w/128K..... $369
w/ Intel Celeron® 366MHz Chip w/128K..... $429
w/ Intel Celeron® 400MHz Chip w/128K..... $459
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip..... $479
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip..... $499
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip..... $609
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip..... $829
w/ Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip..... $1089

With Dual Pentium® II installed:

w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip..... $689
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip..... $729
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip..... $949
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip..... $1389
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip..... $1909

SUPERMICRO P6DGH



Dual $889

SUPER

- Intel 440GX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II 233-450 MHz processor support
- Single or Dual Pentium® II 233, 266, 300, 333, 350, 400, 450MHz
- 2 ISA Slots, 9 PCI Slots (5 Primary, 4 Secondary), 1 AGP Slot
- 4x DIMM Sockets
- 2GB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse, 1 Infrared Port.
- Full AT Form Factor 12.2" x 13.2"

WITHOUT CPU..... $889

With Single Pentium® II installed:

w/ Intel Celeron® 300MHz Chip w/128K..... $979
w/ Intel Celeron® 333MHz Chip w/128K..... $989
w/ Intel Celeron® 366MHz Chip w/128K..... $1049
w/ Intel Celeron® 400MHz Chip w/128K..... $1079
w/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip..... $1099
w/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip..... $1119
w/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip..... $1229
w/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip..... $1449
w/ Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip..... $1709

With Dual Pentium® II installed:

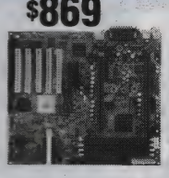
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip..... $1309
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip..... $1349
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip..... $1569
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip..... $2009
w/ Dual Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip..... $2529

GX Chipset for Pentium® II Xeon™ Processor Motherboards

ASUS XG-DLS

- Intel 440GX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II Xeon™ 400-450 MHz processor support
- Single or Dual Pentium® II Xeon™ 400-450MHz
- 1 ISA Slots, 5 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 4x DIMM Sockets
- Running at Bus Speed of 100MHz
- 2GB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse, PS/2 Keyboard
- ATX Form Factor 10.5" x 12"
- Adaptec 7896 Dual Ultra2 SCSI channels.

$869



ASUS

WITHOUT CPU..... $869

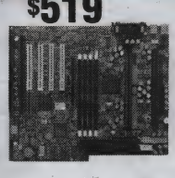
With Single Pentium®II Xeon™ installed:

w/ Intel Pentium® II Xeon™ 400MHz Chip w/512K L2 Cache..... $1759
w/ Intel Pentium® II Xeon™ 400MHz Chip w/1MB L2 Cache..... $3269
w/ Intel Pentium® II Xeon™ 450MHz Chip w/512K L2 Cache..... $1869
w/ Intel Pentium® II Xeon™ 450MHz Chip w/1MB L2 Cache..... $3429
w/ Intel Pentium® II Xeon™ 450MHz Chip w/2MB L2 Cache..... $5369

SUPERMICRO S2DGR

- Intel 440GX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II Xeon™ 400-450 MHz processor support
- Single or Dual Pentium® II Xeon™ 400-450MHz
- 2 ISA Slots, 4 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 4x DIMM Sockets
- Running at Bus Speed of 100MHz
- 2GB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse, PS/2 Keyboard
- ATX Form Factor 12" x 10.125"
- Adaptec 7895 Dual Channel UW SCSI 80MB/s.

$519



SUPER

WITHOUT CPU..... $519

With Single Pentium®II Xeon™ installed:

w/ Intel Pentium® II Xeon™ 400MHz Chip w/512K L2 Cache..... $1409
w/ Intel Pentium® II Xeon™ 400MHz Chip w/1MB L2 Cache..... $2919
w/ Intel Pentium® II Xeon™ 450MHz Chip w/512K L2 Cache..... $1519
w/ Intel Pentium® II Xeon™ 450MHz Chip w/1MB L2 Cache..... $3079
w/ Intel Pentium® II Xeon™ 450MHz Chip w/2MB L2 Cache..... $5019

SUPERMICRO S2DGU

- Intel 440GX Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® II Xeon™ 400-450 MHz processor support
- Single or Dual Pentium® II Xeon™ 400-450MHz
- 2 ISA Slots, 5 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 4x DIMM Sockets
- Running at Bus Speed of 100MHz
- 2GB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse, PS/2 Keyboard
- ATX Form Factor 12" x 10.125"
- Adaptec 7890 Ultra II SCSI 80MB/s.

$559



SUPER

WITHOUT CPU..... $559

With Single Pentium®II Xeon™ installed:

w/ Intel Pentium® II Xeon™ 400MHz Chip w/512K L2 Cache..... $1449
w/ Intel Pentium® II Xeon™ 400MHz Chip w/1MB L2 Cache..... $2959
w/ Intel Pentium® II Xeon™ 450MHz Chip w/512K L2 Cache..... $1559
w/ Intel Pentium® II Xeon™ 450MHz Chip w/1MB L2 Cache..... $3119
w/ Intel Pentium® II Xeon™ 450MHz Chip w/2MB L2 Cache..... $5059

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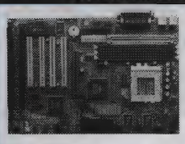
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AOPEN AX59 PRO



$89 512K Cache

AOpen

- VIA MVP3 Chipset
- CPU: Pentium®/Pentium ® MMX™ 75-233MHz, Cyrix, AMD
- 2 ISA, 4 PCI Slots & 1 AGP Slot
- 3x DIMM Sockets, 2x SIMM Sockets
- 384MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, 1 Floppy
- ATX form factor. 9.6"x12"
- Supports 100MHz FSB (Clock Generator Support up to 112MHz)

WITHOUT CPU $89

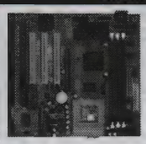
With Intel Pentium® Processor

P5MMX-233MHz $189

With AMD-K6™ MMX Processor

K6-2 PR 300	$189
K6-2 PR 333	$199
K6-2 PR 350	$219
K6-2 PR 366	$229
K6-2 PR 380	$249
K6-2 PR 400	$289

ASUS P5A-B



$105 512K Cache

ASUS

- ALi Aladdin V AGP Chipset
- CPU: Pentium®/Pentium ® MMX™ 75-233MHz, Cyrix, AMD
- 2 ISA, 3 PCI Slots
- 3x DIMM Sockets
- 256MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse, Keyboard, IrDA
- Size: 9.6"x8.7", 2/3. Baby AT Form Factor
- 100MHz Front Side Bus. PC/100 Memory Support.

WITHOUT CPU $105

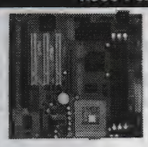
With Intel Pentium® Processor

P5MMX-233MHz $205

With AMD-K6™ MMX Processor

K6-2 PR 300	$205
K6-2 PR 333	$215
K6-2 PR 350	$235
K6-2 PR 366	$245
K6-2 PR 380	$265
K6-2 PR 400	$305

ASUS P5A-B WOA



$95 512K Cache

ASUS

- ALi Aladdin V AGP Chipset
- CPU: Pentium®/Pentium ® MMX™ 75-233MHz, Cyrix, AMD
- 2 ISA, 3 PCI Slots
- 3x DIMM Sockets
- 384MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse, Keyboard, IrDA
- Size: 9.6"x8.7", 2/3. Baby AT Form Factor
- 100MHz Front Side Bus. PC/100 Memory Support.

WITHOUT CPU $95

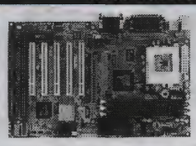
With Intel Pentium® Processor

P5MMX-233MHz $195

With AMD-K6™ MMX Processor

K6-2 PR 300	$195
K6-2 PR 333	$205
K6-2 PR 350	$225
K6-2 PR 366	$235
K6-2 PR 380	$255
K6-2 PR 400	$295

ASUS P5A WOA



$105 512K Cache

ASUS

- ALi Aladdin V AGP Chipset
- CPU: Pentium®/Pentium ® MMX™ 75-233MHz, Cyrix, AMD
- 5 PCI Slots
- 3x DIMM Sockets
- 356MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse, IrDA
- ATX Form Factor
- 100MHz Front Side Bus. PC/100 Memory Support.

Also available ASUS P5A for $115

WITHOUT CPU $105

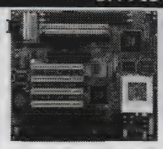
With Intel Pentium® Processor

P5MMX-233MHz $205

With AMD-K6™ MMX Processor

K6-2 PR 300	$205
K6-2 PR 333	$215
K6-2 PR 350	$235
K6-2 PR 366	$245
K6-2 PR 380	$265
K6-2 PR 400	$305

DFI P5BV3+



$79 1MB Cache

DFI

- VIA® Apollo MVP3 AGP Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® w/ MMX™ technology/AMD/Cyrix/IDT C6
- 2 ISA, 3 PCI Slots & 1 shared PCI/ISA & 1 AGP Slot
- 2x DIMM Sockets, 2x SIMM Sockets
- PC-100 SDRAM DIMM for 100MHz external system bus clock processors.
- 256MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse, Keyboard, IrDA
- Size: 9.84" x 8.66", 4 layers, Baby AT form factor.
- Accelerated Graphics Port w/ up to 533MB/sec. bandwidth.

WITHOUT CPU $79

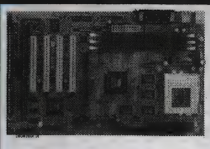
With Intel Pentium® Processor

P5MMX-233MHz $179

With AMD-K6™ MMX Processor

K6-2 PR 300	$179
K6-2 PR 333	$189
K6-2 PR 350	$209
K6-2 PR 366	$219
K6-2 PR 380	$239
K6-2 PR 400	$279

FIC PA-2013



$79 1MB Cache

FIC

- VIA Apollo MVP3 Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® w/ MMX™ technology / AMD / Cyrix
- 2 ISA, 4 PCI Slots & 1 AGP Slot
- 3x DIMM Sockets support 3.3V EDO & SDRAM
- 768MB DRAM Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse, PS/2 Keyboard, IrDA
- Size: ATX-size 4-layer PCB, 12" x 8"
- Ultra DMA/33 support, LS-120 support.

WITHOUT CPU $79

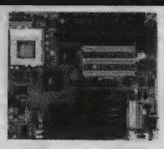
With Intel Pentium® Processor

P5MMX-233MHz $179

With AMD-K6™ MMX Processor

K6-2 PR 300	$179
K6-2 PR 333	$189
K6-2 PR 350	$209
K6-2 PR 366	$219
K6-2 PR 380	$239
K6-2 PR 400	$279

FIC VA-503+



$79 1MB Cache

FIC

- VIA® Apollo MVP3 Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® w/ MMX™ technology / AMD / Cyrix
- 3 ISA, 3 PCI Slots & 1 AGP Slot
- 2x DIMM Sockets, 4x SIMM Sockets
- PC-100 SDRAM DIMM for 100MHz external system bus clock processors.
- 512MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse, PS/2 Keyboard, IrDA
- Size: 9.2" x 8.6", 4 layers PCB, Baby AT form factor.
- On-Board PCI IDE / Ultra DMA/33

WITHOUT CPU $79

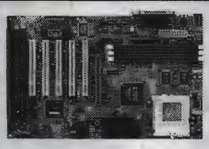
With Intel Pentium® Processor

P5MMX-233MHz $179

With AMD-K6™ MMX Processor

K6-2 PR 300	$179
K6-2 PR 333	$189
K6-2 PR 350	$209
K6-2 PR 366	$219
K6-2 PR 380	$239
K6-2 PR 400	$279

SOYO SY-5EMA+



$79 1MB Cache

SOYO

- ETEQ 82C6638/6629 AGP Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® w/ MMX™ technology / AMD / Cyrix
- 2 ISA, 5 PCI Slots & 1 AGP Slot
- 3x DIMM Sockets, 2x SIMM Sockets
- 768MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse & Keyboard, IrDA
- 4 Layer, 12"x7.5", ATX Form Factor
- Support Two Ultra DMA-33 IDE Ports.

WITHOUT CPU $79

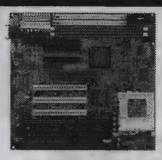
With Intel Pentium® Processor

P5MMX-233MHz $179

With AMD-K6™ MMX Processor

K6-2 PR 300	$179
K6-2 PR 333	$189
K6-2 PR 350	$209
K6-2 PR 366	$219
K6-2 PR 380	$239
K6-2 PR 400	$279

SOYO SY-5EH5M



$79 1MB Cache

SOYO

- ETEQ 82C6638AT/6629 AGP Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® w/ MMX™ technology / AMD / Cyrix
- 3 ISA, 4 PCI Slots & 1 AGP Slot
- 2x DIMM Sockets, 2x SIMM Sockets
- 576MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse,IrDA
- 4 Layer PCB, 22cmx23cm, Baby AT Form Factor
- Supports 100MHz Host Bus/Ultra DMA/33

WITHOUT CPU $79

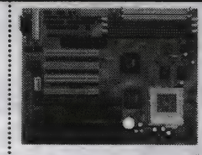
With Intel Pentium® Processor

P5MMX-233MHz $179

With AMD-K6™ MMX Processor

K6-2 PR 300	$179
K6-2 PR 333	N/A
K6-2 PR 350	$209
K6-2 PR 366	N/A
K6-2 PR 380	N/A
K6-2 PR 400	$279

TYAN S1590S



$99 1MB Cache

TYAN

- VIA Apollo MVP3 Chipset
- CPU: Pentium® w/ MMX™ technology / AMD / Cyrix
- 4 ISA, 4 PCI Slots & 1 AGP Slot, 1 shared PCI/ISA Slots
- 3x DIMM Sockets, 2x SIMM Sockets
- 768MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse, 1 Ir
- Mini-AT design (11.1"x8.75"_Reduced Form Factor.
- On-Board dual channel PCI IDE PIO, IDE DMA & IDE DMA/33

WITHOUT CPU $99

With Intel Pentium® Processor

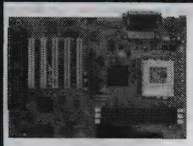
P5MMX-233MHz $199

With AMD-K6™ MMX Processor

K6-2 PR 300	$199
K6-2 PR 333	N/A
K6-2 PR 350	$229
K6-2 PR 366	N/A
K6-2 PR 380	N/A
K6-2 PR 400	$299

Celeron® Socket 370 Motherboards

ABIT BM6



$119

ABIT

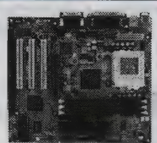
- Intel 440BX Chipset
- CPU: Support Socket 370 Intel Celeron® Processor (Based on 66/100MHz clock)
- 2 ISA Slots, 5 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 3x DIMM Sockets
- 768MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse & Keyboard, IrDA
- ATX Form Factor.
- Supports Keyboard and Mouse Wake Up.

WITHOUT CPU $119

With Single Pentium®II installed:

w/ Intel Celeron® 300MHz Chip	$209
w/ Intel Celeron® 333MHz Chip	$239
w/ Intel Celeron® 366MHz Chip	$259
w/ Intel Celeron® 400MHz Chip	$299
w/ Intel Celeron® 433MHz Chip	$339

ASUS MEL-M



$119

ASUS

- Intel 440LX Chipset
- Supports 66MHz System Bus
- CPU: Support Socket 370 Processors 300MHz and above.
- 1 ISA Slots, 3 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot
- 3x DIMM Sockets
- 384MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse & Keyboard, IrDA
- MicroATX Form Factor.
- YAMAHA PCI Audio with AC'97 CODEC.

WITHOUT CPU $119

With Single Pentium®II installed:

w/ Intel Celeron® 300MHz Chip	$209
w/ Intel Celeron® 333MHz Chip	$239
w/ Intel Celeron® 366MHz Chip	$259
w/ Intel Celeron® 400MHz Chip	$299
w/ Intel Celeron® 433MHz Chip	$339

SUPERMICRO 370SBA



$119

SUPER●

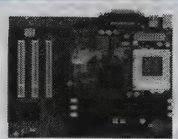
- Intel 440BX Chipset
- 66/100MHz FSB
- CPU: Support Socket 370 Intel Celeron® 333-366 Processor
- 3 ISA Slots, 4 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot (1 shared)
- 3x DIMM Sockets
- 768MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse & Keyboard, IrDA
- ATX Form Factor.
- 2MB AMI BIOS

WITHOUT CPU $119

With Single Pentium®II installed:

w/ Intel Celeron® 300MHz Chip	$209
w/ Intel Celeron® 333MHz Chip	$239
w/ Intel Celeron® 366MHz Chip	$259
w/ Intel Celeron® 400MHz Chip	$299
w/ Intel Celeron® 433MHz Chip	$339

SUPERMICRO 370SBM



$99

SUPER●

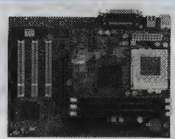
- Intel 440BX Chipset
- 66/100MHz FSB
- CPU: Support Socket 370 Intel Celeron® 333-366 Processor
- 1 ISA Slots, 3 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot (1 shared)
- 3x DIMM Sockets
- 768MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse & Keyboard, IrDA
- MicroATX Form Factor.
- 2MB AMI BIOS

WITHOUT CPU $99

With Single Pentium®II installed:

w/ Intel Celeron® 300MHz Chip	$189
w/ Intel Celeron® 333MHz Chip	$219
w/ Intel Celeron® 366MHz Chip	$239
w/ Intel Celeron® 400MHz Chip	$279
w/ Intel Celeron® 433MHz Chip	$319

SUPERMICRO 370SLM



$95

SUPER●

- Intel 440BX Chipset
- 66MHz FSB
- CPU: Support Socket 370 Intel Celeron® 333-366 Processor
- 1 ISA Slots, 3 PCI Slots, 1 AGP Slot (1 shared)
- 3x DIMM Sockets
- 768MB Maximum On Board Memory
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, 2 USB, PS/2 Mouse & Keyboard, IrDA
- MicroATX Form Factor.
- 2MB AMI BIOS

WITHOUT CPU $95

With Single Pentium®II installed:

w/ Intel Celeron® 300MHz Chip	$185
w/ Intel Celeron® 333MHz Chip	$215
w/ Intel Celeron® 366MHz Chip	$235
w/ Intel Celeron® 400MHz Chip	$275
w/ Intel Celeron® 433MHz Chip	$315



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TC's Advantage Packs have become so popular that we've configured Advantage Packs in just about every price range. You get everything you need to take advantage of the components you already have and enjoy the latest in motherboard architecture and processor technology. Just take your hard drive, floppy drive, multimedia, keyboard and monitor from your old system and build them with your new Advantage Pack components. It's like getting a new computer for a fraction of the cost.

Add a Western Digital Hard Drive

4.3 GIG	Caviar	$138
6.4 GIG	Caviar	$149
8.4 GIG	Caviar	$173

Add a 1.4 Floppy Drive $19

Add Windows®98 Full OEM Version on CD $99

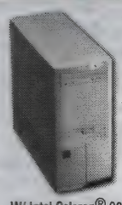
BX Starter Advantage Pack



- ABIT BH6 Pentium® II ATX Motherboard
- Enlight Mid-Tower ATX Case with 300 Watts Power Supply
- 32MB SDRAM Memory
- Diamond Speedstar A50 8MB AGP Video Card
- Shipped Unassembled

W/ Intel Celeron® 300MHz Chip w/128K Cache	$349
W/ Intel Celeron® 333MHz Chip w/128K Cache	$359
W/ Intel Celeron® 366MHz Chip w/128K Cache	$415
W/ Intel Celeron® 400MHz Chip w/128K Cache	$445
W/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip	$465
W/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$475
W/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$589
W/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip	$799
W/ Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip	$1059

BX Advantage Pack



- SuperMicro P6SBA Pentium® II ATX Motherboard
- Enlight Mid-Tower ATX Case with 300 Watts Power Supply
- 64MB SDRAM Memory (PC100 on Pentium® II 350,400,450)
- ATI XPert 98 8MB AGP Video Card
- Shipped Unassembled

W/ Intel Celeron® 300MHz Chip w/128K Cache	$439
W/ Intel Celeron® 333MHz Chip w/128K Cache	$449
W/ Intel Celeron® 366MHz Chip w/128K Cache	$505
W/ Intel Celeron®400MHz Chip w/128K Cache	$539
W/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip	$549
W/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$569
W/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$679
W/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip	$889
W/ Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip	$1149

BX Advantage Pack Extreme



- Abit BX6 Revision 2 Pentium® II ATX Motherboard
- Enlight Mid-Tower ATX Case with 300 Watts Power Supply
- 128MB SDRAM Memory (PC100 on Pentium® II 350,400,450)
- Diamond Viper V550 AGP Video Card
- Shipped Unassembled

W/ Intel Celeron® 300MHz Chip w/128K Cache	$639
W/ Intel Celeron® 333MHz Chip w/128K Cache	$649
W/ Intel Celeron® 366MHz Chip w/128K Cache	$699
W/ Intel Celeron® 400MHz Chip w/128K Cache	$729
W/ Intel Pentium® II 333MHz Chip	$755
W/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$775
W/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$879
W/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip	$1089
W/ Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip	$1339

BX Advantage Pack Ultimate Gamers Experience



- ASUS P2B Pentium® II ATX Motherboard
- Enlight Mid-Tower ATX Case with 300 Watts Power Supply
- 256MB PC100 SDRAM Memory
- Diamond Monster Fusion 16MB Video Card
- Diamond Monster 3D II 12MB 3dFX Voodoo 2 Graphics
- Creative Sound Blaster Live! Value Sound Card
- Altec Lansing ADA 305 Satellite Subwoofer Speakers
- Shipped Unassembled

W/ Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$1349
W/ Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$1449
W/ Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip	$1659
W/ Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip	$1899

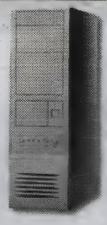
GX Dual Advantage Server/Workstation Pack



- SuperMicro P6DGS ATX Motherboard
- Built on Dual Channel Ultra Wide SCSI
- Procase Full-Tower ATX Case with 300 Watts Power Supply
- 256MB PC100 SDRAM Memory
- ATI Xpert 98 AGP 8MB Video Card
- Shipped Unassembled

W/ Single Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$1239
W/ Single Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$1349
W/ Single Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip	$1559
W/ Single Intel Pentium® II 500MHz Chip	$1809
W/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 350MHz Chip	$1459
W/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 400MHz Chip	$1679
W/ Dual Intel Pentium® II 450MHz Chip	$2099
W/ Dual Intel Pentium® III 500MHz Chip	$2599

XEON™ Advantage Server Pack

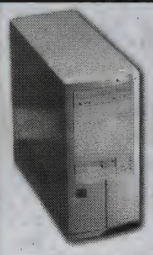


- SuperMicro S2DGU ATX Motherboard
- Built-in Adaptec 7890 Ultra SCSI Controller
- Procase Full-Tower ATX Case with 300 Watts Power Supply
- 512MB PC100 Memory
- Diamond 8MB Video Card
- Shipped Unassembled

W/ Intel Pentium® II Xeon™ 400MHz Chip w/ 512K L2 Cache	$2319
W/ Intel Pentium® II Xeon™ 400MHz Chip w/1MB L2 Cache	$3729
W/ Intel Pentium® II Xeon™ 450MHz Chip w/512K L2 Cache	$2429
W/ Intel Pentium® II Xeon™ 450MHz Chip w/1MB L2 Cache	$3949
W/ Intel Pentium® II Xeon™ 450MHz Chip w/2MB L2 Cache	$5789

Socket 7 AGP Advantage Packs

SOYO Super 7 Bundle

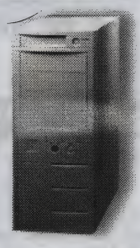


- SOYO SY5EMA Super 7 Motherboard
- Enlight Mid-Tower ATX Case
- 32MB PC100 SDRAM Memory
- Diamond Speedstar 8MB AGP Video Card
- Shipped Unassembled

Add a 1.4 Floppy Drive $20
Add Windows®98 Full Version $99

AMD-K6-2 PR 333 Chip	$345
AMD-K6-2 PR 350 Chip	$365
AMD-K6-2 PR 400 Chip	$439

FIC Super 7 Bundle Elite

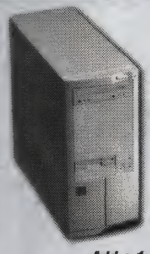


- FIC VA503+ Super 7 Motherboard
- Enlight Mid-Tower AT Case
- 64MB PC100 SDRAM Memory
- ATI XPert 98 8MB Video Card
- Shipped Unassembled

Add a 1.4 Floppy Drive $20
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AMD-K6-2 PR 333 Chip	$405
AMD-K6-2 PR 350 Chip	$419
AMD-K6-2 PR 400 Chip	$489

ASUS Super 7 Gamers Pack

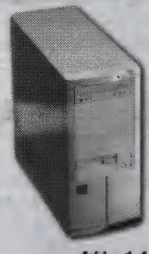


- ASUS P5A without audio Super 7 Motherboard
- Enlight Mid-Tower ATX Case
- 64MB PC100 SDRAM Memory
- Diamond Stealth II G460 AGP 8MB Video Card
- Diamond Monster 3D II 12MB Voodoo 3dfx Graphics
- Shipped Unassembled

Add a 1.4 Floppy Drive $20
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AMD-K6-2 PR 333 Chip	$579
AMD-K6-2 PR 350 Chip	$609
AMD-K6-2 PR 400 Chip	$679

FIC Super 7 Extreme Gamers Avenger

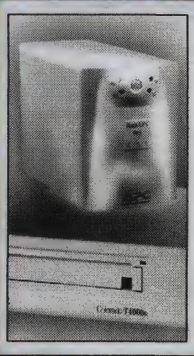


- FIC PA2013 Super 7 Motherboard
- Enlight Mid-Tower ATX Case
- 128MB PC100 CAS2 Memory
- Diamond Monster Fusion (retail) 16MB Video Card
- Diamond Monster 3D II 12MB Voodoo 3dFX Graphics
- Creative Sound Blaster Live! Value Sound Card
- Shipped Unassembled

Add a 1.4 Floppy Drive $20
Add Windows®98 Full Version $99

AMD-K6-2 PR 333 Chip	$839
AMD-K6-2 PR 350 Chip	$869
AMD-K6-2 PR 400 Chip	$929

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1GB Jaz Drive	SCSI	External	IOJAZSCSIE	$275
1GB Jaz Drive	SCSI	Internal	IOJAZSCSI	$259
2GB Jaz Drive	SCSI	External	JAZ2E	$309
2GB Jaz Drive	SCSI	Internal	JAZ2I	$315

IOMEGA DITTO DRIVE

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Hewlett Packard Colorado T4S Internal Up to 4 Gig.1 Tape included	T4I	$319
Hewlett Packard Colorado T4E External Up to 8 Gig.1 Tape included	T4E	$399

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American Power Conversion

APC Smart-Ups Pro8T2 Professional Surge Station	PRO8T2	$39
Tripp Lite S6+Telephone, 6 outlets, 3.5' cord lenght	SUPER6+	$15
APC BP280S-280 VA Capacity P&P	BP280S	$129
APC BP650S-650 VA Capacity P&P	BP650S	$269
APC Smart-UPS v/s 420 w/ Power Chute Software	SU420NET	$239
APC Smart-UPS v/s 620 w/ Power Chute Software	SU620NET	$299
APC Smart-UPS v/s 1000 w/ Power Chute Software	SU1000NET	$495
APC Smart-UPS v/s 1400 w/ Power Chute Software	SU1400NET	$639

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MAG 720v2	17" (16.1" viewable)	1280x1024	.28mm dot pitch	MV604204	$209
MAG XJ810	19" (18.0" viewable)	1600x1200	.22mm dot pitch	MV475136	$489
Optiquest Q51	15" (13.7" viewable)	1024x768	.28mm dot pitch	VS20406	$159
Optiquest Q71	17" (16.0" viewable)	1280x1024	.27mm dot pitch	VS231906	$259
Optiquest V95	19" (18.0" viewable)	1600x1280	.26mm dot pitch	CMOPV95	$499
Princeton Ultra52	15" (13.8" viewable)	1280x1024	.28mm dot pitch	CMPGU52	$165
Princeton EO720	17" (15.9" viewable)	1280x1024	.26mm dot pitch	CMPGE0720	$319
Princeton EO900	19" (18.1" viewable)	1600x1200	.26mm dot pitch	CMPGEO900	$499
ViewSonic E655	15" (13.8" viewable)	1280x1024	.28mm dot pitch	E655	$179
ViewSonic E771	17" (16.0" viewable)	1280x1024	.27mm dot pitch	E771	$269
ViewSonic G810	21" (20.0" viewable)	1600x1200	.25mm dot pitch	G810	$949
ViewSonic G653	15" (13.8" viewable)	1280x1024	.28mm dot pitch	G653	$199
ViewSonic GS771	17" (16.0" viewable)	1280x1024	.27mm dot pitch	GS771	$365
ViewSonic PS790	19" (18.0" viewable)	1600x1280	.25mm dot pitch	PS790	$599
ViewSonic PS775	17" (16.0" viewable)	1600x1200	.25mm dot pitch	PS775	$499
ViewSonic P810	21" (20.0" viewable)	1600x1280	.25mm dot pitch	P810	$999

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Princeton DPP500	14" (14" viewable)	1024x768	TFT LCD Display	CMPGDPP500	$899
Princeton DPP560	15" (15" viewable)	1024x768	TFT LCD Display	CMDPP560P	$940
ViewSonic VP140	14" (14" viewable)	1024x768	TFT Active Matrix ViewPanel	VS609409	$899
ViewSonic VPA150	15" (15" viewable)	1024x768	Multimedia Pivoting ViewPanel	VSVPA150	$875
ViewSonic VG180	18 (18.1" viewable)	1280x1024	TFT Active Matrix ViewPanel	VS979417	$2699

Video Cards

matrox DIAMOND ATi

PCI Video Cards

Diamond Stealth II S220 PCI, 4MB SGRAM Outrageous 2D/3D Windows Acceleration	DIA102145	$55
ATI TV-TV Tuner Module with Video Capture	ATITV	$85
Creative 3D Blaster Voodoo2 PCI, **12MB**, Based on 3Dfx Voodoo™ 2 Chipset	3DVD12	$141



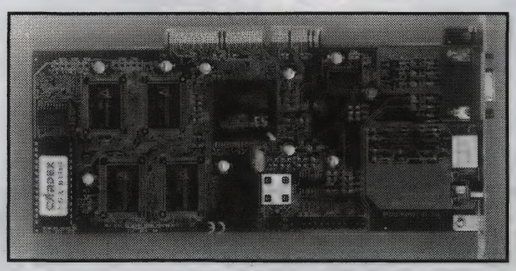
Diamond Monster Fusion (Retail)



ATI Rage Fury (Retail)

AGP Video Cards

ASUS AGP-V3400TNT, nVIDIA's 128-bit RIVA TWiN Texel 3D/2D graphics & video accelerator	AGPV3400	$131
ASUS AGP-V3400TNT w/ TV Output , nVIDIA's 128-bit RIVA TWiN Texel 3D/2D graphics & video accelerator	AGPV3400TV	$154
Diamond Stealth II G460 AGP 8MB SDRAM	DIA110779	$67
Diamond Speedstar A50 8MB SDRAM AGP	A50	$46
Diamond Viper V550 16MB AGP, Next-generation Riva TNT engine True 128Bit Power	DIA110782	$161
Diamond Monster Fusion (Retail) AGP, 16MB SGRAM, True 128-bit 3D, 2D & video	DIA021701	$142
Matrox Mystique G200 8MB SDRAM	MYSTG2008	$114
Matrox Millennium G200 8MB SGRAM	MILG2008RT	$114
Matrox Marvel G200-TV 15-in-1 graphics solution for 2D, 3D, & video editing	MARVELTV	$280
ATI Rage Magnum (Retail) 32MB AGP powerful workstation graphics & video acceleration	AT888347	$155
ATI Rage Fury (Retail) 32MB AGP hi-performance 128-bit graphics & video acceleration	AT083642	$180
ATI XPERT 128, 16MB AGP powerful 128-bit 3D, 2D & video acceleration	ATI29699	$135
ATI XPERT@Play 98 AGP **8MB**, 3D Action for Windows® 98	AT888312	$71
ATI All-in-Wonder Pro AGP **8MB**, ATI 3D RAGE PRO Video & Graphics accelerator	AT588195	$147
Canopus Pure 3D II 12MB, 3Dfx Voodoo2 Graphics Chipset	CNP3D212C	$606
Canopus Pure 3DLX 6MB, 3Dfx Voodoo2 Graphics Chipset	CNP3D206C	$98
Canopus Pure 3D 6MB Voodoo, 3Dfx Voodoo2 Graphics Chipset	CNP3D206T	$122



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Enlight Mid-Tower Enlight Case, 250 watt P.S., 1/3.5" & 4/5.25" ext & 4/3.5"int bays	EN6680	$69
Enlight Mini-Tower Case, 200 watt P.S., 3/3.5" & 2/5.25" bays	EN6552	$49
Enlight ATX Case, 300 watt P.S., 2/3.5", 4/5.25" ext. & 2/3.5" int. bay, 7 extension slots	EN7237	$79
SuperMicro Full-Tower Case, 300 watt ATX 1/3.5" & 6/5.25" ext & 2/3.5"int bay	SC750-A	$165
SuperMicro SC801-A Full ATX size dual Pentium Pro-based server 300 watt	SC801A	$639
NEW! **SuperMicro Full-Tower Case BGE**, 300 watt AT 1/3.5" & 6/5.25" ext & 3/3" int bay	SRM268415	$189
Procase CS768T ATX Big Tower Case, 3/3.5" & 6/5.25" ext & 1/3.5"int bays, 300 watt PS	CS768T	$139

Keyboards

Acer 52Q Keyboard, 105 Keys, Windows 95, Membrane type, Low noise	52Q	$29
Acer 52M AT Keyboard, 104 Keys, Windows 95, Membrane type	52M	$15
Acer 52M PS/2 Keyboard, 105 Keys, Windows 95, Membrane type	52MPS2	$15
Microsoft Keyboard IntelliType Software, ergonomic, 100% Windows 95	MSKEY	$45
Logitech 104-key Win '95 keyboard PC w/ detachable wrist rest	LT305901	$19

Mice • Trackball

Microsoft Intellimouse V3.0 PS/2 Style for Windows 95	INMOUSE	$59
Logitech First Mouse+, wheel button scrolling on Windows 95 apps w/out using scrollbars	FMOUSE+	$29
Logitech Mouseman, 4 Button PS/2 mouse with Serial Adapter	MM4BUTTON	$49
Logitech TrackMan Marble, marble technology, fast thumb-operated trackball.	TMARBLE+	$69
Genius NetMouse Pro "Magic button" designed for browsing Internet & Windows® doc.	NMOUSEPRO	$15

Ethernet Cards

intel

3Com Etherlink III, 16-bit ISA 10 Combo	3C509COMBO	$119
3Com Fast Etherlink, 10/100 PCI	3C905TX	$89
3Com Etherlink III XL PCI Combo	3C900COMBO	$125
3Com Fast Etherlink XL PCI, 10/100 PCI NICS	3CM682369	$95
3Com Fast Etherlink XL PCI, 10/100 TX NM (no remote wake-on-lan cable)	3CM26794	$79
3Com Ethernet/Fast Etherlink PCI, 10/100Base-TX	3CM825261	$99
Trendware PCI Combo for Server	TE-PCI	$29
Trendware PCI Combo for Workstation	TE-PCI/W	$19
Trendware ProXpress 10/100 PCI	TE100-PCI	$39
Intel EtherExpress Pro 10/100 PCI w/ TX media	PILA8460	$85
Trendware XPress TE-16XP Ethernet Card 16-bit ISA	TE16PCT	$17

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iomega

Iomega Buz™ The Buz™ multimedia producer is a combination Ultra SCSI controller and real-time, professional quality video capture card that connects your PC to SCSI devices like a Jaz® 2GB drive, a Zip® drive or a scanner. Buz™ lets you capture high-quality video from camcorders, VCRs or DVD players and add text, transitions, special effects or music from CDs to your home movies. BUZ $185

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DesTech HD100, Hard Drive Cooler	HD100	$12
DesTech HD300, 3.5" Hard Drive Ventilator	DT-HD300	$10
DesTech SL100, 80mm PC Circulator	SL100	$12
VanTec PC Air Circulator, Twin tube dual fan ventilation system effectively cools temperature within any computers chassis. Fits in any ISA or PCI slots	PCAC211B	$25
UH-144 USB Hub, This Universal Serial Bus hub, which is USB cable connector and a bridge between PC USB Host Controller & USB devices	USBHUB	$79
BenWin Microphone, Microphone for use w/ voice modems & voice input	MP008	$5
BenWin Headset Mirophone Combo w/ Volume Control, Microphone w/ headphones, for use w/ voice modems & voice input	HP402V	$7



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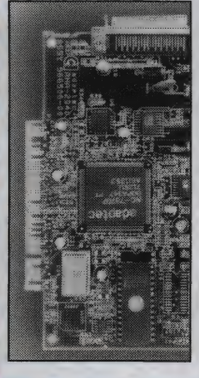
HARD DRIVES

Capacity	Model	Cache	Access	RPM	Interface	Mfr.'s Warranty	Product Code	Price
Seagate								
4.3 GIG	Medalist	128K	11ms	5,400	Ultra DMA/33	3 Year	ST34321A	$131
6.5 GIG	Medalist	128K	11ms	5,400	Ultra DMA/33	3 Year	ST36531A	$148
8.6 GIG	Medalist	128K	11ms	5,400	Ultra DMA/33	3 Year	ST38641A	$169
10.2 GIG	Medalist	128K	11ms	5,400	Ultra ATA	3 Year	ST310240A	$194
Quantum								
6.4 GIG	Fireball EX	128K	9.5ms	5,400	Ultra DMA/33	3 Year	QM306400A	$155
12.7 GIG	Fireball EX	128K	9.5ms	5,400	Ultra DMA/33	3 Year	QM312700A	$258
WESTERN DIGITAL								
4.3 GIG	Caviar	256K	9.5ms	5,400	Ultra DMA/33	3 Year	WD24300A	$138
6.4 GIG	Caviar	256K	11ms	5,400	Ultra DMA/33	3 Year	WD36400A	$149
8.4 GIG	Caviar	256K	11ms	5,400	Ultra DMA/33	3 Year	WD38400A	$173
10.1 GIG	Caviar	256K	11ms	5,400	Ultra DMA/33	3 Year	WD310100A	$204
13 GIG	Caviar	512K	9.5ms	5,400	Ultra DMA/33	3 Year	WD313000A	$246
IBM								
10.1 GIG	Deskstar	512K	9.5ms	5,400	Ultra DMA/33	3 Year	25L2583	$175
16.8 GIG	Deskstar	512K	9.5ms	5,400	Ultra DMA/33	3 Year	00K4073	$312
20.3 GIG	Deskstar	512K	9.5ms	5,400	Ultra DMA/33	3 Year	25L2560	$452
25.0 GIG	Deskstar	512K	9.5ms	5,400	Ultra DMA/33	3 Year	25L2652	$565
14.4 GIG	Ultrastar GXP	512K	9.5ms	7,200	Ultra DMA/33	3 Year	00K4071	$344
18.0 GIG	Ultrastar GXP	512K	9.5ms	7,200	Ultra DMA/33	3 Year	25L2658	$452
22.0 GIG	Ultrastar GXP	512K	9.5ms	7,200	Ultra DMA/33	3 Year	25L2661	$565
FUJITSU								
4.32 GIG	Fujitsu	512K	9.5ms	5,400	Ultra DMA/33	3 Year	FJ236657	$138
6.48 GIG	Fujitsu	512K	9.5ms	5,400	Ultra DMA/33	3 Year	FJ236659	$174
10.2 GIG	Fujitsu	512K	9.5ms	5,400	Ultra DMA/33	3 Year	FJ236651	$190



Capacity	Model	Cache	Access	RPM	Interface	Mfr.'s Warranty	Product Code	Price
Seagate								
4.3 GIG	Barracuda	512K	7.1ms	7,200	Ultra SCSI	5 Year	ST34573N	$357
4.3 GIG	Barracuda	512K	7.1ms	7,200	Ultra Wide SCSI	5 Year	ST34573W	$357
4.3 GIG	Barracuda	512K	7.1ms	7,200	Ultra-2 SCSI (low voltage)	5 Year	ST34573LW	$357
9.1 GIG	Barracuda	512K	7.1ms	7,200	Ultra SCSI	5 Year	ST39173N	$418
9.1 GIG	Barracuda	512K	7.1ms	7,200	Ultra Wide SCSI	5 Year	ST39173W	$418
9.1 GIG	Barracuda	512K	7.1ms	7,200	Ultra-2 SCSI (low voltage)	5 Year	ST39173LW	$418
18.2 GIG	Barracuda	512K	7.1ms	7,200	Ultra SCSI	5 Year	ST118273N	$769
18.2 GIG	Barracuda	512K	7.1ms	7,200	Ultra Wide SCSI	5 Year	ST118273W	$769
18.2 GIG	Barracuda	512K	7.1ms	7,200	Ultra-2 SCSI (low voltage)	5 Year	ST118273LW	$769
9.1 GIG	Medalist Pro	512K	9.5ms	7,200	Ultra SCSI	5 Year	ST39140N	$341
9.1 GIG	Medalist Pro	512K	9.5ms	7,200	Ultra Wide SCSI	5 Year	ST39140W	$341
Quantum								
4.5 GIG	Viking II	512K	7.5ms	7,200	Ultra-2 SCSI (low voltage)	5 Year	QM304550LW	$247
9.1 GIG	Viking II	512K	7.5ms	7,200	Ultra-2 SCSI (low voltage)	5 Year	QM309100LW	$394
18.2 GIG	Atlas III	1,024K	7.5ms	7,200	Ultra SCSI	5 Year	QM318200S	$806
18.2 GIG	Atlas III	1,024K	7.5ms	7,200	Ultra-2 SCSI (low voltage)	5 Year	QM318200LW	$806
WESTERN DIGITAL								
4.3 GIG	Enterprise	512K	8ms	7,200	Ultra Wide SCSI	5 Year	WD4360WB	$352
4.5 GIG	Enterprise	512K	7.8ms	7,200	Ultra2 SCSI	5 Year	WD4550LVD	$461
9.1 GIG	Enterprise	512K	11ms	7,200	Ultra Narrow SCSI	3 Year	WD9100SB	$489
9.1 GIG	Enterprise	512K	11ms	7,200	Ultra Wide SCSI	3 Year	WD9100WB	$462
9.1 GIG	Enterprise	512K	7.8ms	7,200	Ultra2 SCSI	5 Year	WD9100LVD	$577
IBM								
9.1 GIG	Ultrastar 18ES	2MB	7.5ms	7,200	Ultra Wide LVD SCSI	5 Year	25L1910	$587
18.2 GIG	Ultrastar 18ES	2MB	7.5ms	7,200	Ultra Wide LVD SCSI	5 Year	25L1900	$925
36.4 GIG	Ultrastar 18ES	2MB	7.5ms	7,200	Ultra Wide LVD SCSI	5 Year	08L8404	$1578
9.1 GIG	Ultrastar 9LZX	1MB	6.5ms	10,000	Ultra Wide LVD SCSI	5 Year	08L8260	$602
18.2 GIG	Ultrastar 9LZX	4MB	5.3ms	10,000	Ultra Wide LVD SCSI	5 Year	08L7616	$1087

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Adaptec A2940UWK Ultra Wide SCSI PCI Kit	AHA2940UWK	$295
Adaptec A2940U2W Ultra2 SCSI , 80MB/sec data burst rates on the Ultra2 SCSI bus	A2940U2WK	$355
Adaptec AHA1542CP-SCSI 2 Controller Kit	AHA1542CP	$245
Adaptec AAA130 Single Channel Ultra SCSI Array Adapter, supports RAID 0, 1, 0/1 & 5	AAA131	$439
Adaptec AAA130/3 Three Channel Ultra SCSI Array Adapter, supports RAID 0, 1, 0/1 & 5	AAA133	$699
NEW! **Adaptec SCSI Card 2930U2** PCI-to-Ultra2 Host Adapter, 80MB/sec Ultra SCSI performance	AD23539	$269
Promise DriveDefender™ PCI Controller, 33MB/sec Data Transfer for UDMA or EIDE Drives	DEFENDER	$85
Promise ULTRA 33-33MB/sec Data transfer for ATA/DMA & EIDE Drives	ULTRA33	$59
Promise ULTRA66 PCI Controller, IDE, 80-wire cable combination to support 66MB/sec transfer	ULTRA60	CALL
Promise EIDE PRO-Up to 4 Drives 16550 UART, EPP/ECP	EIDEPRO	$49
Promise FLOPPYMAX Bootable ATAPI Controller for 3.5" LS-120 Floppy Drive (see TC page 9)	FLOPPYMAX	$29
Promise EIDEMAX 16-bit Enhanced IDE Controller	EIDEMAX	$25
Promise EIDEMAX II , BIOS Upgrade & IDE Port Expansion Card for ISA, VESA or older PCI systems	EIDEMAX2	CALL
Promise DriveMAX, BIOS Upgrade Card for ISA, VESA or older PCI systems	DRIVEMAX	CALL
Promise SCSI ULTRA80 Controller, Ultra 2-SCSI, 80MB/sec (sync) & 20MB/sec (async)	SCULTRA80	$219
Promise Premier SCSIPLUS Controller, Fast SCSI-2, 8-bit architecture, 10MB/sec trans. rate	SCSIPLUS	$109
Promise Premier SCSIULTRA Controller, Fast 20-SCSI, 40MB/sec (sync) & 14MB/sec (async) trans.	SCSIULTRA	$169

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ASUS CDS500	50X	IDE	7.5KB/sec transfer	75ms access	128K Buffer	CDS500		$75
Memorex CD-402E	40X	IDE	6.0KB/sec transfer	75ms access	128K Buffer	MEMOREX40X		$79
Mitsumi FX-320	32X	IDE	4.8KB/sec transfer	120ms access	256K Buffer	MITSUMI32X		$55
Panasonic	32X	IDE	4.8KB/sec transfer	80ms access	256K Buffer	586B		$69
Sony CDU70110	32X	IDE	4.8KB/sec transfer	80ms access	128K Buffer	SONY32XU		$55
TEAC CD-532	32X	SCSI	4.8KB/sec transfer	85ms access	512K Buffer	CD532S		$99
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3.5-INCH 120MB LS-120 FLOPPY DISK DRIVE 80 times the capacity of 1.44MB floppy drives, 5 times the speed of 1.44MB floppy drives, up to 120MB formatted capacity using LS-120 media, reads & writes 1.44MB HD & 720KB, 1" high, 3.5" form factor, fast 4MB/sec transfer rate, industry standard ATAPI IDE interface MF357G **$89**

MITSUMI 1.4 Floppy Drive 1.4M **$19**

TEAC 1.4 Floppy Drive 1.4T **$24**

CD-Recorders • CD-Rewritable

MITSUMI PLEXTOR TEAC

MITSUMI CR-2801TE CD-Recorder, 8X Read & 2X Write, 200ms access, Up to 650MB per disk, 512KB cache, Int. IDE CR2801TE **$219**

MEMOREX CRW-2642 (CD-RW, CD-R, CD-ROM all-in-one) ATAPI E-IDE, 6X Read, 4X Writes, 2X Rewrites MRX12309 **$369**

PLEXTOR PLEXWRITER 4/12 CD-Recorder, 12X Read & 4X Write, 190ms access, 2MB cache, SCSI ..... PLEXWRITER **$349**

TEAC CD-R55S CD-Recorder, 12X Read & 4X Write, 165ms access, 1800kps read/600kps write, 1MB cache, SCSI2 ..... CDR55S **$315**

ACER CDW 6206A CD-Rewriterdrive, 6X Read & 2X Write & Re-write, 300ms access, E-IDE/ATAPI interface CRW6206A **$229**

Hewlett Packard Surestore 7200i Internal IDE CD Writer Plus, 6X Read & 2X Write & Re-write HPC4380A **$279**

Philips PCA362RW CD Rewritable Kit Internal IDE, 6X Read & 2X Write & Re-write, 290ms access PHIPCA362 **$263**

YAMAHA CRW4416S CD-Rewritable, 2MB Buffer, Flash ROM, Tray Loading, 16X Read Speed, ReWriteable CRW4416S **$399**

Sound Cards

US Sertek CREATIVE DIAMOND YAMAHA AZTECH ENSONIQ

Creative Labs AWE64, Value-64 Voice, 512K RAM, CD Bundle AWE64VALUE **$45**

Creative Labs AWE64 Gold, Gold contacts make recording clearer AWE64GOLD **$139**

Creative Labs Sound Blaster PCI128, 16-MIDI Channels, 128-voice PCI128 **$69**

Creative Labs Sound Blaster 16 Plug & Play SB16PNP **$29**

Creative Labs Sound Blaster Live! Hollywood-Quality Audio Re-creation ..... SBLIVE **$189**

Creative Labs Sound Blaster Live! Value Powerful audio/gaming experience ..... SBLIVEVALUE **$91**

Diamond Sonic *Impact* PCI Sound w/64-voice hardware wavetable ..... SONIC **$39**

Diamond Monster Sound MX200 w/64-voice hardware wavetable MSMX200 **$145**

US Sertek DCS S817 Sound Card, PCI bus, YAMAHA YMF724 chipset DCS817 **$25**

Yamaha WaveForce 192XG, Super-fast PCI bus technology WF192XG **$95**

Speakers

ALTEC BENWIN

Altec Lansing ACS43, PowerCube 2 Piece Speaker System ACS43 **$39**

Altec Lansing ACS 44, Sattelite Power 8 watts, Subwoofer Power15W ACS44 **$65**

Altec Lansing ACS48, 20 watt speakers w/ 40 watt Subwoofer, PowerCube+ ACS48 **$119**

Altec Lansing ADA 70 PowerCube Speakers ACSADA70 **$125**

Altec Lansing ADA 305, Sattelite Power 20 watts, Subwoofer Power 20W ADA305 **$149**

BenWin BWFX1-3D, 17 Watts (RMS), 3D surround on/off w/LED BWFX1 **$12**

BenWin BWFX2-3D, 25 Watts (RMS), 3D surround on/off w/LED BWFX2 **$19**

BenWin BW2000, Front Panel Speaker 3W+3W (rms) Subwoofer 6W (rms) BW2000 **$129**

Creative Labs SBS50 Two-way Speaker System (3 woofer & 1 tweeter), single touch mute button, bass/treble/volume control BW078409 **$34**

Yamaha YST-M7, 5W/Channel x 2 Amplifier Output YSTM7 **$39**

Yamaha YST-M35, Powered speaker/sub-woofer system for multimedia YSTM35 **$119**

Modems • Video Kits • Cameras

US Sertek CREATIVE 3Com Robotics AZTECH DIAMOND

Diamond SupraMax 56i Data/Fax/Voice PCI Internal Controllerless Faxmodem SM56K **$45**

Diamond SupraSonic II Internal, double your modem speed to 112K DIA813165 **$139**

U.S. Robotics 56K Voice Faxmodem Pro External MBUSR5605 **$185**

U.S. Robotics 56K Winmodem Internal Model 5683 3Com v.90 technology 5683 **$85**

U.S. Robotics 56K Voice Faxmodem Internal Model 5685 3Com v.90 tech 5685 **$125**

U.S. Robotics 56K Faxmodem External, IBM compatible PC 5686 **$135**

U.S. Robotics 56K Faxmodem Internal, IBM compatible PC 5687 **$109**

U.S. Robotics v.90 56K PCI internal faxmodem for Windows® 5698 **$108**

U.S. Robotics Courier v. everything 56K internal corporate modem MBUSR2805 **$125**

3Com/U.S.R. Internet Discovery ST PC 56K v.90 PCI internal faxmodem USR780741 **$89**

US Sertek DCS Internet Fax Modem, Internal 56K data/fax/voice 56KPCT **$35**

US Sertek DCS 56PR6-PCI Modem, Internal Data/Fax/Voice Modem + Speakerphone 56KR **$39**

U.S. Robotics 1689 Big Picture Video Camera and Capture Card 1689 **$149**

Video Blaster® WebCam II Digital Camera, 16.7 million color capture WEBCAM2 **$95**

Scanners

Acer

AcerScan Prisa 610P Color Flatbed Scanner, Enhanced Parallel Port, 36-bit Color, 600x1200dpi optical, 9600dpi max. resolution 610P **$95**

AcerScan Prisa 620U Color Flatbed Scanner, USB Interface, 36-bit Color, 600x1200dpi optical, 19200dpi max. resolution 620U **$125**

Memory Modules

Non-Parity

1X32-60	4MB	$10
2X32-60	8MB	$17
4X32-60	16MB	$45
8X32-60	32MB	$89
16X32-60	64MB	$135

EDO

1X32 EDO	4MB	$10
2X32 EDO	8MB	$17
4X32 EDO	16MB	$45
8X32 EDO	32MB	$89
16X32-60	64MB	$135

Parity

1X36-60	4MB	$17
2X36-60	8MB	$25
4X36-60	16MB	$55
8X36-60	32MB	$99
16X36-60	64MB	$155

SDRAM (10ns)

2X64	16MB	$27
4X64	32MB	$49
8X64	64MB	$97
16X64	128MB	$190

SDRAM PC100 Compliant

4X64-100	32MB	$53
8X64-100	64MB	$99
16X64-100	128MB	$199

Corsair MicroSystems Memory

Corsair SDRAM

4X64	32MB	$49
8X64	64MB	$109
16X64	128MB	$209

Corsair ECC SDRAM

4X72 ECC	32MB	$59
8X72 ECC	64MB	$139
16X72 ECC	128MB	$249

Corsair PC100 SDRAM

8X64-100	64MB	$119
16X64-100	128MB	$229

Corsair ECC PC100 SDRAM

8X72-100 ECC	64MB	$149
16X72-100 ECC	128MB	$289
32X72-100 ECC	256MB	$699

Corsair CAS 2 PC100 SDRAM

8X64-100 CAS 2	64MB	$159
16X64-100 CAS 2	128MB	$299

All memory carries a lifetime warranty

The market price of RAM fluctuates daily.
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LEXMARK Canon OKI HP

HP DeskJet 720C Inkjet Printer
Max. Std. Resolution: 600x600 dpi
Page per Min: 5ppm B&W, 1.5ppm Color
Up to 16.7 million color output
Max Page Size: 8.5" x 14" HP433941 **$315**



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OKI Smoothing Technology
Page per Min: 4ppm
Max Page Size: 8.5" x 14" OKK14W **$159**



Canon MultiPASS C3500 Multifunction Printer
Color Jet Printer, Copier, Scanner & Fax
Max. Std. Resolution: 720x360 dpi
Page per Min: 6.5ppm B&W, 2.5ppm Color
Max Page Size: 8.5" x 14" C3500 **$315**



Canon BubbleJet BJC-250
Color Inkjet Printer
Max. Std. Resolution: 720x360 dpi
Page per Min: 4ppm B&W, .52ppm Color
Max Page Size: 8.5" x 14" CNBJC250 **$129**



LexMark™ 1100 Color Jetprinter
Max. Std. Resolution: 600x600 dpi
Page per Min: 3.5ppm B&W, 1.5ppm Color
Max Page Size: 8.5" x 14" LX1100 **$115**



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1 Year Xerox Warranty
Max. Std. Resolution: 600x600 dpi
Page per Min: 8ppm
Load up to 150 sheets for continuous printing XE609937 **$359**



XEROX DocuPrint 4517 Laser Printer
4MB Memory installed and centerware DP software
Max. Std. Resolution: 1200x600 dpi
Page per Min: 17ppm
Max Page Size: 8.5" x 14" XE648844 **$1039**





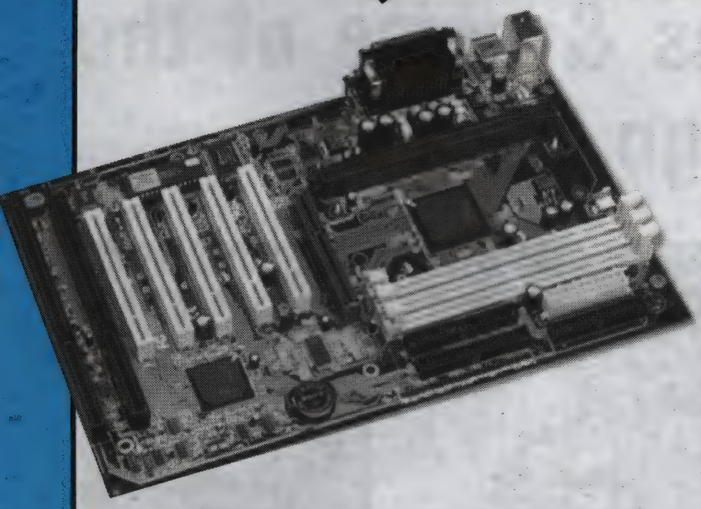
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key features

- Supports Intel Pentium II processors from 233MHz to 333MHz (Slot 1)
- Supports Celeron® processors from 233MHz to 400MHz and beyond (Slot 1)
- Three 168pin DIMM sockets (3.3v unbuffered)
- Five 32-bit PCI slots, Two 16-bit ISA slots (one PCI/ISA shared) and One 32-bit 2X AGP slot
- Mini ATX footprint
- Jumperless for easy upgrades to newer and faster CPU's
- 2 Universal Serial Bus (USB) ports for all the latest cutting-edge peripherals

Board Alone

$49

Chipset:

- Intel 440LX PIIX4 AGPset

Processor Support (Slot 1):

- **Intel Celeron®**
  - 233MHz to 400+ MHz
- **Intel Pentium® II**
  - 233MHz to 333MHz

Memory:

- Three 168pin DIMM sockets
  (3.3v unbuffered)
  (2nd level cache built into CPU)
  up to 384MB of system memory
  Support for 64bit SDRAM
  Support for 72bit ECC* SDRAM
  Memory bus runs between
  66MHz and 100MHz, user selectable

Connectors:

- Three 168pin DIMM sockets (see memory section)
- Five 32-bit PCI slots
- Two 16-bit ISA slots (one PCI/ISA shared)
- One 32-bit 2X AGP slot

Peripheral support built-in:

- Integrated I/O includes Dual 16550 compatible serial ports
- ECP/EPP compatible parallel port
- Floppy port
- Dual USB ports
- PS/2 style keyboard and mouse connectors
- IrDA compliant Infrared connector

BIOS Features:

- Award PCI Plug 'n' Play BIOS
- APM 1.2 / ACPI / DMI 2.0 / Quick boot / Multi boot II / SMI
- Optional System Hardware Monitoring
- Flash BIOS for Free Downloadable Software Upgrades

All bundles include processor fan wrist strap and installation video. 3-year warranty.

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Intel 333MHz Pentium® II Processor w/128K cache MMX™	$269

BUNDLE B — $199

Micronics C300 Motherboard
Intel 333MHz Celeron® Processor w/128K cache MMX™
32MB SDRAM Memory

Intel 300MHz Celeron® Processor w/128K cache MMX™	$189
Intel 400MHz Celeron® Processor w/128K cache MMX™	$299
Intel 333MHz Pentium® II Processor w/128K cache MMX™	$319

BUNDLE C — $389

Micronics C300 Motherboard
Intel 400MHz Celeron® Processor w/128K cache MMX™
64 MB SDRAM Memory
Diamond A50 8MB AGP Video Card

Intel 300MHz Celeron® Processor w/128K cache MMX™	$279
Intel 333MHz Celeron® Processor w/128K cache MMX™	$289
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Windows® 98 Software
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ATI AGP 3D 4MB Video
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101-Key Keyboard, Mouse
Sound, Speakers
Windows® 98 Software
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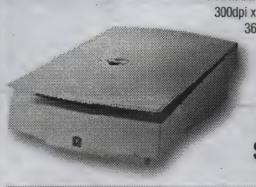
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100 e-mail messages
Up to 4000 addresses
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Hewlett Packard Scanjet 5100C Flatbed Color Scanner
300dpi x 300dpi Resolution
36-Bit Imaging



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Hewlett Packard LaserJet 4000N (Network)
1200dpi quality
Up to 17ppm for letter documents
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RELISYS

15" Monitor
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CMREL551
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2ppm B&W
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Xircom



Xircom Realport Value Modem 56K V.90

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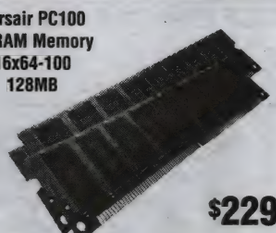
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17" Monitor
(16.0" viewable)
1280x1024
.28mm dot pitch

CMREL772
$209

CORSAIR PC100 SDRAM MEMORY

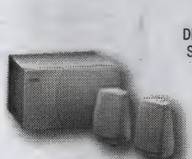
Corsair PC100 SDRAM Memory 16x64-100 128MB



$229

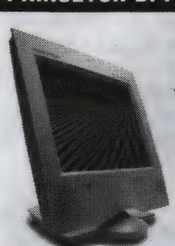
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Altec Lansing ADA70 Speakers
Digital PowerCube USB Speaker System with True Digital Audio



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PRINCETON

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512K Cache
Crystal CS4611 3D Sound Chip
8MB SGRAM AGP Video Card
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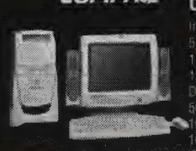
21" Compaq QVision 210 Monitor



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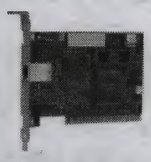
Compaq Presario 5635 Model



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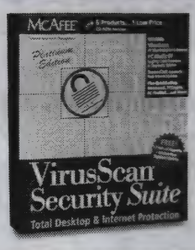
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Memorex CD-362E CD-ROM Drive
36x IDE Internal
128KB Buffer
6156KB/sec Maximum Transfer Rate



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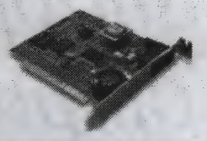


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The most comprehensive protection available for your PC.
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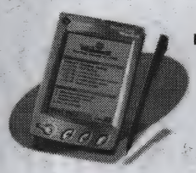
3COM/USR FAXMODEM

Internet Discovery Suite V.90 56K
U.S Robotics PCI Internal Faxmodem
for Windows® 95/98/NT 4.X



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Cassiopeia E-11
Personal Digital Assistant
Palm PC
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4MB
2.15"x3.4" view

CSI90096
$365

SONY MAVICA MVC-FD51

Sony Mavica MVC-FD51 Digital Camera
New Quick Access 2x Hight Speed Floppy Disc Drive, Removable 3.5" 2HD Floppy Storage Media, 640x480 Pixel, 24 Bit Color (VGA), 1/60-1/2000 Second Shutter Speeds, Auto Exposure & White Balance, Built-in Intelligent Flash, 2.5" Color LCD Screen w/ Brightness control.



SO977072
$475

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Diamond Monster Fusion
16MB AGP 1X
with 3DFX Voodoo® Banshee Chipset
2D/3D Video Adapter.

DIA021701
$142

PRINCETON EO900 MONITOR

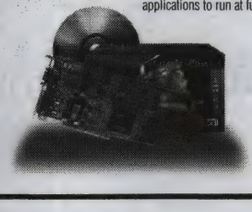


19" Monitor
(18.0" viewable)
1600x1200
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The ultimate power-house for 3D CAD Animation and visualization, PCI 128 bit.8MB VRAM & 16MB DRAM allows texture-hungry applications to run at full-speed.



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NOTEBOOK

TOSHIBA
Satellite 4020CDT
- Pentium II 300MHz
- 13.3" XGA TFT
- 6.4GB ■ 64MB
- 24X CD-ROM
- 56K Modem



$2199

HANDHELD PDA

3Com
NEW! Palm V In Stock!

Palm III	$259
Palm IIIx	$337
Palm V	$389



$259

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MICROTEK
SlimScan C3
- 300 x 600 dpi
- 36-Bit Color
- USB or EPP

*after $30 mail-in rebate



$39*

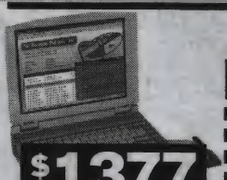
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Canon
NEW! BJC-2000
* after $50 mail-in rebate when bought with any PC.
** only $125 after $20 mail-in rebate when bought separately



$95*

NEW NOTEBOOKS



TOSHIBA
Satellite 2530CDS
- Pentium 300MHz Processor w/ MMX
- 13.0" DSTN COLOR Display
- 4.0 GB HDD ■ 32 MB RAM
- 24X CD-ROM ■ 56K V.90 Modem
- Lithium-Ion Battery

$1377

Libretto 100CT	P166MMX, 7.1" TFT, 32/2.01, Win 95, 2.35 Pounds!		$1379
Libretto 110CT	P233MMX, 7.1" TFT, 32/4.1, Win 95, 2.35 Pounds!		$1599
Satellite 2530CDS	**P300MMX, 13.0" DSTN, 32/4.0, 24X, 56K V.90**	**NEW!**	**$1377**
Satellite 4000CDS	PII233, 12.1" DSTN, 32/4.0, 24X, 56K V.90		$CALL
Satellite 4000CDT	PII233, 12.1" TFT, 32/4.0, 24X, 56K V.90		$1569
Satellite 4010CDS	PII266, 12.1" DSTN, 32/4.0, 24X, 56K V.90		$1249
Satellite 4010CDT	PII266, 12.1" TFT, 32/4.0, 24X, 56K V.90		$1697
Satellite 4020CDT	PII300, 13.3" XGA, 64/6.4, 24X, 56K V.90		$2199
Satellite 4030CDT	**Celeron 300, 13.3" XGA, 64/4.3, 24X, 56K V.90**	**NEW!**	**$1899**
Satellite 4080XCDT	**PII366, 14.1" XGA, 64/6.4, 24X, 56K V.90**	**NEW!**	**$2999**
Portege 3010CT	P266MMX, 10.1" Pan TFT, 32/4.3, 56K		$1579
Portege 7000CT	PII266, 12.1" Active TFT, 32/4.1, 56K		$2377
Portege 7010CT	PII300, 12.1" Active TFT, 32/4.1, 56K		$2899
Portege 7020CT	**PII366, 13.3" XGA, 64/6.4, 56K, Only 1" Thin!**	**NEW!**	**$3499**
Tecra 8000 - 4GB	PII266, 13.3" XGA, 64/6.4, 24X, 56K		$2699
Tecra 8000 - 6.4GB	PII300, 14.1" XGA, 64/8.0, 24X, 56K		$3579

COMPAQ

Presario 1235	AMD-K6 266MMX, 12.1" HPA, 32/4.0, 24X, 56K	$1199*
Presario 1240	P266MMX, 12.1" TFT, 64/4.0, 24X, 56K	$1499*
Presario 1255	AMD-K6-2 300 3DNow!, 12.1" HPA, 32/4.0, 24X, 56K	$1396
Presario 1260	AMD-K6-2 333 3DNow!, 12.1" TFT, 64/4.0, 24X, 56K	$1596
Presario 1655	PII266MHz, 13.3" XGA, 64/4.0, 24X, 56K	$1796
Presario 1920	PII300MHz, 13.3" XGA, 64/6.4, DVD, 56K, *Ultra Slim!*	$2796

*price after $100 mail-in Compaq Easy Internet Access Rebate.

SHARP

Actius A100	P233MMX, 11.3" TFT, 64/3.2, 56K, 2.9 Pounds!	$1599
Actius A150	P266MMX, 11.3" TFT, 64/4.3, 56K, 2.9 Pounds!	$1799

UMAX

ActionBook 333T	AMD-K6-2 333 3DNow!, 12.1" TFT, 32/3.2, 24X, 56K	$1379
ActionBook 335T	AMD-K6-2 350 3DNow!, 12.1" TFT, 32/4.3, 24X, 56K	$1499
ActionBook 535T	AMD-K6-2 350 3DNow!, 13.3" XGA, 32/4.3, 24X, 56K	$1699

MONITORS

Pixie PBC-1450	14" (13.25" VIS), 1024x768, 0.28mm, Analog Controls	$99
Pixie 555	15" (13.8" VIS), 1024x768, 0.28mm, Digital Controls & OSD	$129
Pixie 770	17" (15.8" VIS), 1024x768, 0.28mm, External Controls	$229
Pixie 995	19" (18.0" VIS), 1600x1200, 0.22mm, External Controls	$399

PDAS/HANDHELDS

LG Electronics

Phenom	WinCE 2.0, 640x240 Backlit, 8MB, 21.6K, Voice, IrDA	$197
Phenom Ultra	WinCE 2.0, 8.25" COLOR Screen, 16MB, 33.6K, Voice, IrDA	$489
Phenom Express	WinCE 2.0, 8"COLOR Backlit, 32MB, 56K, Voice, IrDA	$649

SHARP

Mobilon HC-4600	WinCE 2.0, 6.5" COLOR LCD, 16MB, 33.6K, Voice, IrDA	$679
MobilonPro PV-5000	WinCE 2.1, 8.2" COLOR LCD, 16MB, 33.6K, Voice, IrDA	$799
MobilonTriPad 6000	WinCE 2.1, 9.4" COLOR LCD, 16MB, 33.6K, Voice, IrDA	$879

PHILIPS

*after $50 mail-in rebate ** choose modem or $50 rebate

Nino 200	Newest Nino model from Philips now in stock!	$CALL
Nino 301	WinCE 2.0, 320x240 Backlit, 4MB, CompactFlash, Voice	$219*
Nino 312	WinCE 2.0, 320x240 Backlit, 8MB, Voice, Modem Option	$299**
Nino 320	WinCE 2.0, 320x240 Backlit, 8MB, Voice, 19.2K Modem	$399

Nino 320 includes FREE 8MB CompactFlash Upgrade

3Com

Palm III	Palm OS 3.0, Backlit, 2MB, Sync w/PC, Desktop Organizer	$259
Palm IIIx	Palm OS 3.0, Backlit, 4MB, Sync w/PC, Desktop Organizer	$337
Palm V	Ultra Slim, LCD Backlit, 2MB, Sync w/PC, Desktop Organizer	$389

COMPAQ

Aero 2130	NEW!	TFT COLOR Display , 16MB, IrDA Port, Audio In/Out	$496

PRINTERS

Canon

*after $30 mail-in rebate. **after $20 mail-in rebate.

BJC-1000	*NEW!*	720x360 dpi COLOR Bubble Jet, 4 PPM, Compact Design	$87*
BJC-2000	*NEW!*	720x360 dpi COLOR Bubble Jet, 5 PPM, Scanner Option	$125**
BJC-250		720x360 dpi COLOR Bubble Jet, 4 PPM, Print Banners	$89
BJC-4400		720x360 dpi COLOR Bubble Jet, 6.5 PPM, Scanner Option	$109
BJC-5000		1440x720 dpi 7-COLOR Bubble Jet, 75 PPM, Up to 11" x 17"	$189
BJC-80		720x360 dpi COLOR Bubble Jet, 4.5 PPM, PORTABLE!	$289
BJC-50		720x360 dpi COLOR , 5.5 PPM, IrDA Port, PORTABLE!	$339

EPSON

Stylus Color 440	720x720 COLOR Ink Jet, Photo Quality, Print Banners	$119
Stylus Color 640	1440x720 COLOR Ink Jet, 5 PPM, Photo Quality, Banners	$169
Stylus Color 740	1440x720 COLOR Ink Jet, 5 PPM, Smallest Ink Droplets	$239
Stylus Color 850	1440dpi COLOR Ink Jet, MicroDot, 9 PPM, PC & Mac	$299
Stylus Color 900N	**1440dpi COLOR Ink Jet, 12 PPM, Ethernet, 3pl Drops**	***NEW!*** **$439**
Stylus Color 1520	1440dpi COLOR Ink Jet, 6 PPM, PC & Mac, Up to 17" x 22"	$449

LEXMARK

*after $30 mail-in rebate. ** after $50 mail-in rebate.

Color Jet 1100	600x600 COLOR Ink Jet, 3.5 PPM, 4-Color Printing	$79*
Color Jet 3200	1200x1200 COLOR Ink Jet, 6 PPM, Photo-Quality Color	$129**
Color Jet 5700	1200x1200 COLOR Ink Jet, 8 PPM, Photo-Quality Color	$179**
Color Jet Z51	**NEW! 1200x1200 COLOR Ink Jet, 10 PPM, 7pl Drop Size**	**$269****
Photo Jet 5770	1200x1200 COLOR Ink Jet, 8 PPM, Uses CompactFlash	$349

DESKTOPS

COMPAQ Presario Models

2286	Cyrix M II 333MMX, 4GB/32MB, 32X CD, 56K ITU V.90	$596
5070	AMD-K6-2 350MHz, 4GB/32MB, 32X CD, 56K ITU V.90	$696
5204	AMD-K6-2 350MHz, 4GB/64MB, 32X CD, 56K V.90, DFP	$796
5220	AMD-K6-2 380MHz, 8GB/64MB, 32X CD, 56K V.90, DFP	$896
5240	AMD-K6-2 400MHz, 10GB/64MB, 40X CD, 56K Cable Ready, DFP	$996
5190	AMD-K6-2 400MHz, 12GB/128MB, DVD, Zip Drive, 56K, DFP	$1296
5670	PII450MHz, 19GB/128MB, 5X DVD, 56K Cable Ready, DFP	$1996

DIGITAL CAMERAS

EPSON

PhotoPC 700	1280x960, 2" COLOR LCD, 4MB Internal, 2X Zoom	$429
PhotoPC 750Z	**1280x960, 2" COLOR LCD, 4MB Internal, 2X Zoom** ***NEW!***	**$729**

Mustek

VDC-200	640x480, 1.8" COLOR LCD, 2MB Internal, Flash & Self-Timer	$177

TOSHIBA

PDR-5	640x480, 2.5" COLOR LCD, 2MB SmartMedia, Built-in PC Card	$337
PDR-M1	1280x1024, 1.8" COLOR LCD, Built-in Flash, 1.5 Million Pixels	$419

KODAK

DC-200	1152x864, Autofocus, 4MB Picture Card, Built-in Flash	$349
DC-220	1152x864, 2X-4X Zoom, 8MB Picture Card, USB, Audio/Video	$589
DC-260	1536x1024, 6X Zoom, 8MB Picture Card, USB, Serial & IrDA	$749

OLYMPUS

D-320L	1024x768, F2.8 Lens, SmartMedia, FREE FlashPath Disk Adapter	$349
D-340L	1280x960, F2.8 Lens, 4MB SmartMedia, FlashPath Adapter	$449
D-400Z	1280x960, 3X Zoom, 8MB SmartMedia, FlashPath Adapter	$709

SONY

Mavica FD51	640x480, 2.5" COLOR LCD, 3.5" Floppy Drive, Built-in Flash	$449
Mavica FD71	640x480, 2.5" COLOR LCD, 3.5" Floppy Drive, 10X Zoom	$599
Mavica FD81	1024x768, 2.5" COLOR LCD, 3.5" Floppy Drive, 3X Zoom	$689

SCANNERS

Canon

CanoScan 620	600x600 dpi Flatbed, 30-bit Color, Parallel Port Interface	$97

EPSON

Perfection 636	600x2400 dpi Flatbed, 36-bit Color, TWAIN, PCI SCSI	$289

MICROTEK

*after $20 mail-in rebate. ** after $30 mail-in rebate.

SlimScan C3	300x600 dpi Flatbed, 36-bit, USB or Enhanced Parallel Port	$39**
SlimScan C6	600x1200 dpi Flatbed, 36-bit, Enhanced Parallel Port	$69*
SlimScan C6	600x1200 dpi Flatbed, 36-bit, Universal Serial Bus	$89*
ScanMaker X6	600x1200 dpi , 36-bit, USB, Enhanced Parallel, or SCSI Port	$119*
ScanMaker X6EL	600x1200 dpi , 36-bit, Up to Legal Size, SCSI Card for PC & Mac	$239

UMAX

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Astra 1220P	600x1200 dpi Flatbed, 36-bit Color, Parallel Port Interface	$79*
Astra 1220U	600x1200 dpi Flatbed, 36-bit Color, Universal Serial Bus Port	$129**
Astra 1220S	600x1200 dpi Flatbed, 36-bit Color, SCSI-2 for PC & Mac	$149*
Astra 2400S	600x2400 dpi Flatbed, 36-bit Color, Up to Legal, SCSI-2 Interface	$399

Mustek

PlugNScan 1200 LP	600x1200 dpi Flatbed, 36-bit Color, Legal Size, Parallel Port	$149
Paragon 1200 LS	600x1200 dpi Flatbed, 36-bit, TWAIN, Legal Size, SCSI Port	$169
PlugNScan A3EP	300x600 dpi Flatbed, 36-bit Color, 11" x 17", Parallel Port	$199

MULTIFUNCTIONS

Canon

MP-C3500	720dpi COLOR Printer/Copier, 14.4K PC Fax, 400dpi Scanner	$289
MP-C5500	720dpi COLOR Printer/Copier, 14.4K PC Fax, 600dpi Scanner	$389
MP-L6000	600dpi LASER Printer/Copier, 14.4K PC Fax, 600dpi Scanner	$549

brother

MFC-4350	600dpi LASER Printer, 14.4K PC Fax, 400dpi Copier	$389
MFC-7650	600dpi LASER 6 PPM Printer, Copier, 600dpi Scanner, PC Fax	$479
MFC-7150c	1440x720dpi COLOR Printer, Copier, Scanner, Fax, Video Capture	$449

FACTORY REFURBISHED SPECIALS

NOTEBOOKS

TOSHIBA

Libretto 50CT	P75MHz, 6.1" TFT, 16MB/772MB, Windows 95, 1.85 Pounds	$579
Libretto 70CT	P120MMX, 6.1" TFT, 16MB/1.58GB, Win 95, IrDA, 1.88 Pounds	$729
Libretto 100CT	P166MMX, 7.1" TFT, 32MB/2.0GB, Win 95, IrDA, 2.35 Pounds	$1079
Libretto 110CT	P233MMX, 7.1" TFT, 32MB/4.1GB, Win 95, IrDA, 2.35 Pounds	$1199
Satellite 315CDS	P200MMX, 12.1" DSTN, 32MB/2.02GB, 16X CD, 56K Modem	$979
Satellite 315CDT	P200MMX, 12.1" TFT, 32MB/2.02GB, 16X CD, 56K Modem	$1089
Satellite 325CDS	P233MMX, 12.1" DSTN, 32MB/4.0GB, 20X CD, 56K Modem	$1099
Satellite 320CDT	P233MMX, 12.1" TFT, 32MB/4.0GB, 20X CD, 56K Modem	$1099
Satellite 335CDS	P266MMX, 12.1" DSTN, 32MB/4.0GB, 20X CD, 56K Modem	$999
Satellite 335CDT	P266MMX, 12.1" TFT, 32MB/4.0GB, 20X CD, 56K Modem	$1149
Satellite 2505CDS	P233MMX, 12.1" DSTN, 32MB/2.02GB, 20X CD, 56K Modem	$979
Satellite 2515CDS	P266MMX, 12.1" DSTN, 32MB/4.3GB, 24X CD, 56K Modem	$1049
Satellite 4005CDS	PII233MHz, 12.1" DSTN, 32MB/4.0GB, 24X CD, 56K Modem	$1079
Satellite 4005CDT	PII233MHz, 12.1" TFT, 32MB/4.0GB, 24X CD, 56K Modem	$1199
Satellite 4015CDS	PII266MHz, 12.1" DSTN, 32MB/4.0GB, 24X CD, 56K Modem	$1179
Satellite 4015CDT	PII266MHz, 12.1" TFT, 32MB/4.0GB, 24X CD, 56K Modem	$1379
Portege 300CT	P133MMX, 10.4" Panoramic TFT, 32MB/1.58GB, 33.6K Modem	$849
Portege 320CT	P266MMX, 10.4" Panoramic TFT, 32MB/4.0GB, 56K Modem	$949
Portege 3015CT	P266MMX, 10.1" Panoramic TFT, 32MB/4.3GB, 56K Modem	$1379

PRINTERS

Canon

BJC-80	720x720 Clr Bubble Jet, 4.5PPM, IrDA, PORTABLE!	$149
BJC-250	720x360 Color Bubble Jet, 4PPM, Print Banners	$79
BJC-4300	720x720 Color Bubble Jet, 5PPM, Scanner Option	$99
BJC-4400	720x720 Color Bubble Jet, 6.5PPM, Scanner Option	$109
BJC-4550	720x720 Color Bubble Jet, 5PPM, Up to 11" x 17"	$129
BJC-5000	1440x720 dpi 7-COLOR Bubble Jet, 75 PPM, Up to 11" x 17"	$CALL
BJC-7004	1200x600 Color Bubble Jet, 5PPM, Photo-Realistic	$169

EPSON

Stylus Color 400	720x720 Color Ink Jet, 4PPM, 4-Color Printing	$97
Stylus Color 600	1440x720 Bubble Jet, 6PPM, 2 Year Warranty	$129
Stylus Color 800	1440x720 Bubble Jet, 8PPM, 2 Year Warranty	$179

LEXMARK

*after $30 mail-in rebate. ** after $50 mail-in rebate.

Color Jet 1100	600x600 Color Ink Jet, 3.5PPM, 4-Color Printing	$59*
Color Jet 3200	1200x1200Color Ink Jet, 6PPM, Photo Quality	$89**
Color Jet 5700	1200x1200Color Ink Jet, 6PPM, 4-Color Printing	$149**

MINOLTA

PageWorks 12	600x600 LASER, 12PPM, 4MB RAM, 750 Sheets	$399
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Canon

FB-640	360dpi Printer, Plain Paper Fax/Copier, 14.4K Fax	$129
MP-800	360dpi Printer, Plain Paper Fax/Copier, PC Fax/Scanning	$129
MP-C2500	720x360 Color Printer, PC Fax/Copier, 200dpi Scanner	$159
MP-C3000	720x360 Color Printer, PC Fax/Copier, 400dpi Scanner	$179
MP-C5000	720x360 Color Printer, PC Fax/Copier, 600dpi Scanner	$199
MP-L6000	600dpi LASER Printer, PC Fax/Copier, 600dpi Scanner	$CALL

DIGITAL CAMERAS

Canon

PowerShot 350	640x480 pixels, 2" COLOR LCD, 2MB CompactFlash	$199
PowerShot 600	832x608 pixels, 1MB Internal Memory, PCMCIA Cards	$229
PowerShot A5	1024x768 pixels, 2" COLOR LCD, 8MB CompactFlash	$399

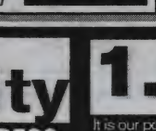
EPSON

PhotoPC 550	640x480 pixels, 1 MB Internal Memory, Voice	$189
PhotoPC 600	1024x768, 2" COLOR LCD, 4MB Internal, Video Out	$299

NOTEBOOK

TOSHIBA
Satellite 335CDS
- Pentium 266MMX
- 12.1" DSTN Color
- 4.0GB ■ 32MB
- 20X ■ 56K

Factory Re-manufactured

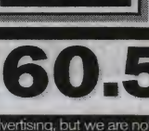


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MINOLTA
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Factory Re-manufactured

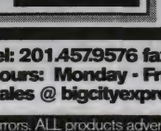


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- Up to 99 Copies
- 600 dpi Scanner
- PC Fax

Factory Re-manufactured



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Canon
BJC-80 Bubble Jet
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- 4.5 PPM Printing
- Photo-Realistic

Factory Re-manufactured



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Motherboards

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Abit Jumperless BX6	$109.99
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Asus P2L97	$ 99.99
Asus P2B98	$119.99
FIC VA 503+/FIC2013	$69.99/$ 74.99
Tyan Trinity 100AT	$ 89.99
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Tornado Multimedia w/ 15" Monitor

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Pentium II 350	$799
Pentium II 400	$929
Pentium II 450	$1,129
Pentium III 500	$1,339
Xeon 400w/ 512k	$1,499
Celeron 333A w/128k	$669
Celeron 400A w/128k	$749

AMD K6

3D K6-2 300	$589
3D K6-2 333	$609
3D K6-2 366	$629
3D K6-2 400	$679

AMD 3D 3D K6-2 300 **$589**

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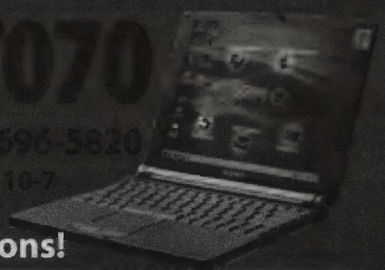
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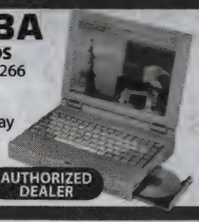


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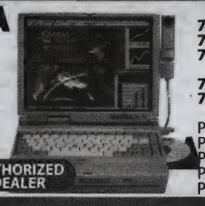
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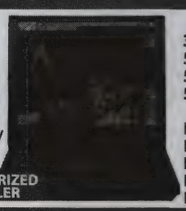
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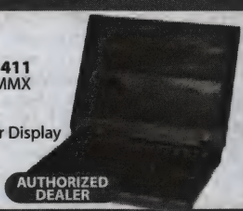
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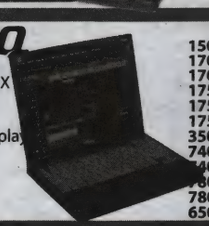
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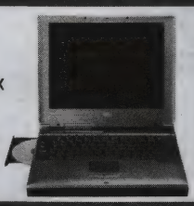
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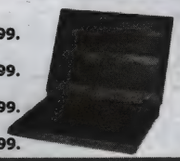
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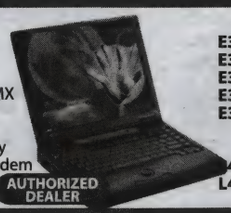
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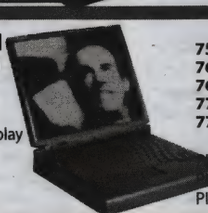
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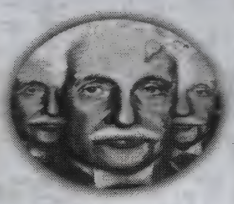
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RAID HOTLINE

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RAID 0 STRIPING

RAID level 0 is referred to as data striping. The data is striped across multiple drives (normally 2) to increase the data throughput of the computer. If all out speed is what you are looking for RAID 0 is your answer. The draw back to RAID 0 is that there is no data redundancy, so if any of the hard drives fail all data is lost and your computer is down. RAID 0 is normally used in graphics applications where ultimate speed is required. Capacity of a RAID 0 system is the total capacity of all drives used. Using two 9GB drives would provide 18GB of storage.

• SCSI Solution •

The ideal way to set up a RAID 0 is with a DPT RAID controller and two (or more drives). This will provide the best performace.
Sample configurations with drives and DPT RAID controller.

18GB - two 9GB Ultra-2 Quantum 7200rpm drives	$1129 after rebate
18GB - two 9GB Ultra-2 Seagate 10,000rpm drives	$1669
36GB - two 18GB Ultra-2 Quantum 7200rpm drives	$1749 after rebate
36GB - two 18GB Ultra-2 Seagate 10,000rpm drives	$2429

RAID 1 MIRRORING

RAID level 1 is referred to as data mirroring. The data is written to multiple drives (normally 2) at the same time. This provides data redundancy. If one drive in the RAID fails, the data is still intact and running on the second drive. This is perfect for mission critical applications such as servers, voice mail systems, etc. Unlike tape backup, the most current saved versions can be found on the mirrored drive so many hours of work can be saved if a drive fails. The performance of a RAID 1 system is similar to a single drive system. RAID 1 is normally used in applications where fault tolerance is required. Capacity of a RAID 1 system is 1/2 of the total capacity of all drives used. Using two 9GB drives would provide 9GB of storage. We highly recommend spending a little extra to make the hard drives hot swappable. If you encounter a drive failure this allows you to simply pull out the drive instead of disassembling the computer.

• IDE Solution •

The best value in RAID 1 is with an IDE RAID controller and two (or more drives). Sample configurations with drives in hotswap shuttles and an IDE RAID controller.

10.1GB - two 10.1GB IBM 7200rpm drives	$729
12.7GB - two 12.7GB Quantum 5400rpm drives	$699
14.4GB - two 14.4GB IBM 7200rpm drives	$949
20.4GB - two 20.4GB Maxtor 7200rpm drives	$999

• SCSI Solution •

The ideal way to set up a RAID 1 is with a DPT RAID controller and two (or more drives). This will provide the best performace.Sample configurations w/drives and DPT RAID controller and shuttles.

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18GB - two 18GB Ultra-2 Seagate 10,000rpm drives	$2629

Call our RAID experts today.

RAID 5 DATA PARITY

RAID level 5 is referred to as shared parity. The data is striped across multiple drives to increase the data throughput of the computer. In addition to the data being written to the drive parity is also written. Parity is a form of redundant information. If one drive in the RAID fails your data is still intact and your computer is running. RAID 5 is normally used in high end applications where fault tolerance and large capacity are required. Capacity of a RAID 5 system is normally about the capacity of all but one of the drives used.

• IDE Drive Solution •

The best value in RAID 5 is with a IDE RAID box.
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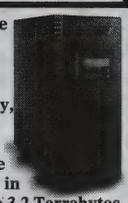
50GB - six 10GB IBM 7200rpm drives	$3639
63GB - six 12GB Quantum 5400rpm drives	$3559
72GB - six 14.4GB IBM 7200rpm drives	$4299
102GB - six 20.4GB Maxtor 7200rpm drives	$4499

• SCSI Solution •

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ULTIMATE RAID



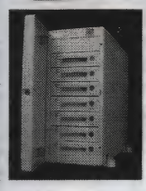
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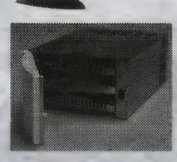
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Ultra Wide or Ultra-2 compatible. Features hot swappable power supplies, and drive shuttles. Features backplane technology for full Ultra-2 speed. Requires RAID controller. Available in 2, 4, 7, and 8 drive models. 7 and 8 drive models also available in rack mount.



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WESTERN DIGITAL

10.2GB	5400rpm	512K	WDAC310200	3yr	$200	$275
13.0GB	5400rpm	512K	WDAC313000	3yr	$245	$320

IBM

18.0GB	7200rpm	2MB	IBM18GXP	3yr	$455	$530
20.3GB	5400rpm	2MB	IBM20GP	3yr	$445	$520
22.0GB	7200rpm	2MB	IBM22GXP	3yr	$560	$635
25.0GB	5400rpm	2MB	IBM25GP	3yr	$555	$630

Quantum™

4.3GB	5400rpm	2MB	CR304300A	3yr	$139	$214
6.4GB	5400rpm	2MB	CR306400A	3yr	$159	$234
8.4GB	5400rpm	2MB	CR308400A	3yr	$185	$260
12.7GB	5400rpm	2MB	CR313000A	3yr	$249	$324

Ultra ATA-66 Accesories

ATA-66 2 drive 80 conductor cable [CABLEATA66]	$9
ATA-66 PCI controller card [ULTRA66]	$69

ULTRA ATA HARD DRIVES

Ultra ATA hard drives are capable of data transfer up to 33Mbytes/sec. They have a 40 pin data connector. They will work on IDE, E-IDE, or Ultra ATA controllers at the controller's maximum speed. Kit includes a PCI Ultra-ATA controller, and data cable.

Quantum™

					Drive	Kit
3.2GB	5400rpm	128K	FB303200A	3yr	$125	$180
6.4GB	5400rpm	128K	FB306400A	3yr	$149	$204
8.4GB	4000rpm	128K	BF8400A	3yr	$169	$224
12.7GB	4000rpm	128K	BF12700A	3yr	$219	$274
12.7GB	5400rpm	512K	FB312700A	3yr	$225	$280
19.2GB	4000rpm	512K	BF19000A	3yr	$309	$364

WESTERN DIGITAL

4.3GB	5400rpm	256K	WDAC14300	3yr	$139	$194
6.4GB	5400rpm	512K	WDAC26400	3yr	$150	$205
8.4GB	5400rpm	256K	WDAC28400	3yr	$165	$220

Seagate

3.2GB	5400rpm	256K	ST33210A	3yr	$125	$180
4.3GB	5400rpm	128K	ST34321A	3yr	$135	$190
6.4GB	5400rpm	256K	ST36422A	3yr	$155	$210
8.6GB	5400rpm	128K	ST38641A	3yr	$169	$224
10.2GB	5400rpm	128K	ST310240A	3yr	$190	$245

Maxtor

4.3GB	5400rpm	512K	M90432D	3yr	$135	$190
8.4GB	5400rpm	512K	M90845D	3yr	$169	$224
10.0GB	7200rpm	512K	M91024D	3yr	$219	$274
13.0GB	5400rpm	512K	M91303D	3yr	$229	$284
15.3GB	7200rpm	512K	M91536D	3yr	$295	$350
17.2GB	5400rpm	512K	M91728D	3yr	$295	$350
20.4GB	7200rpm	512K	M92048D	3yr	$385	$440

IBM

10.1GB	5400rpm	512K	IBM10GP	3yr	$195	$250
10.1GB	7200rpm	512K	IBM10GXP	3yr	$239	$294
12.9GB	5400rpm	512K	IBM12GP	3yr	$249	$304
14.4GB	7200rpm	512K	IBM14GXP	3yr	$349	$404
16.8GB	5400rpm	512K	IBM16GP	3yr	$299	$354

Ultra ATA Accesories

Cable Select Cable,no more changing Master/Slave switches [GSICSEL]	$12
Parallel Port External Case [PPCASEHD]	$89
GSI External Hot Port IDE case, true IDE transfer rates [HOTPORT]	$129
Budget removable drive bracket [TRANSIDE]	$55
Removable drive bracket, quality construction [DP2200A]	$79

KEEP IT COOL!



Prolong the life of your hard drive by keeping it cool!

Mounts in a 5 1/4" bay. Features dual fans. A necessity for 7200rpm & 10,000rpm drives. [VHDFAN] $30

ULTRA/2 SCSI DRIVES

Ultra-2 hard drives are capable of data transfer up to 80Mbytes/sec. They have a 68 pin data connector. They will work on Wide, Ultra Wide or Ultra-2 controller's at the controllers maximum speed. External includes terminator.

Quantum™

*Price after Quantum mail-in rebate. Drives must be purchased 3-1-99 to 4-15-99. Call for details.

					Int	Ext
4.5GB	7200rpm	512K	VK304550LW	5yr	$249	$379
9.1GB	7200rpm	512K	VK309100LW	5yr	$349*	$479*
9.1GB	7200rpm	1024K	XP309100LW	5yr	$369*	$499*
18.2GB	7200rpm	1024K	XP318200LW	5yr	$659*	$789*

Audio Visual Optimized

4.5GB	7200rpm	512K	VK304550LV4	5yr	$279	$409
9.1GB	7200rpm	512K	VK309100LV4	5yr	$379*	$509*
18.2GB	7200rpm	1MB	XP318200LV4	5yr	$689*	$819*

Seagate

4.5GB	7200rpm	1MB	ST34573LW	5yr	$349	$479
4.5GB	10,000rpm	1MB	ST34502LW	5yr	$499	$629
9.1GB	10,000rpm	1MB	ST39102LW	5yr	$619	$749
9.1GB	10,000rpm	4MB	ST39102LW4	5yr	$749	$859
9.1GB	7200rpm	1MB	ST39173LW	5yr	$398	$528
9.1GB	7200rpm	1MB	ST39175LW	5yr	$699	$829
9.1GB	10,000rpm	1MB	ST39103LW	5yr	$819	$949
18.2GB	7200rpm	1MB	ST118273LW	5yr	$745	$875
18.2GB	7200rpm	1MB	ST318275LW	5yr	$1259	$1389
18.2GB	10,000rpm	1MB	ST118202LW	5yr	$999	$1129
18.2GB	10,000rpm	1MB	ST318203LW	5yr	$1459	$1589
18.2GB	10,000rpm	4MB	ST118202LW4	5yr	$1349	$1479
36.4GB	7200rpm	1MB	ST136475LW	5yr	$2129	$2259
36.4GB	10,000rpm	1MB	ST136403LW	5yr	$2459	$2589
50.1GB	7200rpm	1MB	ST150176LW	5yr	$2669	$2799

IBM

9.1GB	7200rpm	512K	IBM39130U2	5yr	$379	$509
9.1GB	10,200rpm	1MB	IDRVS9UZ	5yr	$589	$719
9.1GB	10,200rpm	4MB	IDRVS9UZ4	5yr	$619	$749
18.2GB	7200rpm	1MB	IDGHS18U2	5yr	$719	$849
18.2GB 1"!	7200rpm	2MB	IBM318350U2	5yr	$919	$1049
18.2GB	10,200rpm	4MB	IDVRS18ZX	5yr	$979	$1109
36.4GB	7200rpm	4MB	IDRHS36U2	5yr	$1499	$1629

Ultra-2 Accesories

Adaptec PCI Ultra-2 controller [A2930U2W]	$189
Adaptec PCI Ultra-2 controller [A2940U2WKIT]	$329
DPT PCI Ultra-2 RAID controller [PM2554U2]	$409
External active terminator [ULTA2TERMA]	$45
3' External Ultra-2 to Ultra-2 cable [U2TOU2-3]	$45
Removable drive bracket [DP2200UW]	$139

Call for new Ultra-2 SCSI Western Digital Hard Drives

ULTRA WIDE SCSI DRIVES

Ultra Wide SCSI hard drives are capable of data transfer up to 40Mbytes/sec. They have a 68 pin data connector. They will work on Wide SCSI or Ultra Wide SCSI controllers at the controller's maximum speed. External Drives include terminator.

Quantum™

*Price after Quantum mail-in rebate. Drives must be purchased 3-1-99 to 4-15-99. Call for details.

					Int	Ext
4.5GB	7200rpm	512K	VK304550W	5yr	$249	$369
9.1GB	7200rpm	512K	VK309100W	5yr	$349*	$469*

Seagate

4.5GB	7200rpm	512K	ST34520W	3yr	$219	$339
4.5GB	7200rpm	512K	ST34573W	5yr	$349	$469
6.5GB	7200rpm	512K	ST36530W	3yr	$279	$399
9.1GB	7200rpm	512K	ST39140W	3yr	$345	$465
9.10GB	7200rpm	512K	ST39173W	5yr	$399	$519
18.2GB	7200rpm	512K	ST118273W	3yr	$749	$869

IBM

4.5GB	7200rpm	512K	IBM34560W	5yr	$219	$339
9.1GB	7200rpm	512K	IBM39130W	5yr	$379	$499
9.1GB	7200rpm	2MB	IBM309170W	5yr	$579	$699
18.2GB	7200rpm	2MB	IBM318350W	5yr	$919	$1039

Ultra Wide SCSI Accessories

Adaptec PCI Ultra Wide controller [A2940UW]	$175
Advansys PCI Ultra Wide controller [ABP940UW]	$139
3' External Ultra Wide to Ultra Wide cable [SC3TOSC3-3]	$40
Removable drive bracket [DP2200UW]	$139

ULTRA SCSI HARD DRIVES

Ultra SCSI hard drives are capable of data transfer up to 20Mbytes/sec. They have a 50 pin data connector. They will work on SCSI, SCSI-2 or Ultra SCSI controller's at the controllers maximum speed. External includes terminator.

Quantum™

*Price after Quantum mail-in rebate. Drives must be purchased 3-1-99 to 4-15-99. Call for details.

					Int	Ext
2.1GB	5400rpm	512K	FB32100S	3yr	$205	$265
8.4GB	5400rpm	512K	FB38400S	3yr	$299	$359
9.1GB	7200rpm	1MB	XP309100S	5yr	$369*	$429*
18.2GB	7200rpm	1MB	XP318200S	5yr	$659*	$719*

Seagate

4.5GB	7200rpm	512K	ST34520N	3yr	$219	$279
4.5GB	7200rpm	512K	ST34573N	5yr	$349	$409
6.5GB	7200rpm	512K	ST36530N	3yr	$279	$339
9.1GB	7200rpm	512K	ST39140N	3yr	$345	$405
9.1GB	7200rpm	512K	ST39173N	5yr	$399	$459
18.2GB	7200rpm	512K	ST118273N	5yr	$749	$809

IBM

4.5GB	5400rpm	512K	IBM34560N	5yr	$229	$289
9.1GB	7200rpm	512K	IBM39130N	5yr	$379	$439
9.1GB	7200rpm	2MB	IBM309170N	5yr	$579	$639
18.2GB	7200rpm	1MB	IDGHS18Z	5yr	$719	$779
18.2GB 1"!	7200rpm	2MB	IBM318350N	5yr	$919	$979

Ultra SCSI Accesories

Adaptec PCI Ultra controller [A2940U]	$155
Budget removable drive bracket [TRANSSCSI]	$59
Removable drive bracket [DP2200S]	$85

SCA HARD DRIVES

SCA hard drives are capable of data transfer up to 40Mbytes/sec (80Mbytes/sec for Ultra-2). They have an 80 pin connector that contains data signals and power.

Quantum™

*Price after Quantum mail-in rebate. Drives must be purchased 3-1-99 to 4-15-99. Call for details.

Ultra-2 SCA

4550MB	7200rpm	512K	VK304550SCA	5yr	$249	
9100MB	7200rpm	512K	VK309100SCA	5yr	$349*	
9100MB	7200rpm	1024K	XP309100SCA	5yr	$369*	
18200MB	7200rpm	1024K	XP318200SCA	5yr	$659*	

Seagate

Ultra Wide SCA

4520MB	7200rpm	512K	ST34520WC	3yr	$219	
6530MB	7200rpm	512K	ST36530WC	3yr	$279	
9140MB	7200rpm	512K	ST39140WC	3yr	$349	

Ultra-2 SCA

4550MB	7200rpm	1024K	ST34573LC	5yr	$349	
4550MB	10,000rpm	1024K	ST34502LC	5yr	$499	
9100MB	10,000rpm	1024K	ST39102LC	5yr	$619	
9190MB	7200rpm	1024K	ST39173LC	5yr	$399	
18200MB	7200rpm	1024K	ST118273LC	5yr	$749	
18200MB	10,000rpm	1024K	ST118202LC	5yr	$1009	

SCA Accesories

Tray for Compaq LD, LH, or LX servers [HSTRAY]	$79
SCA drive to Wide SCSI cable cadapter [SCATOSC3]	$29

Call for hot swappable SCA solutions, we have several.

2.5" LAPTOP DRIVES

TOSHIBA

2.1GB	4200rpm	8.45mm	Ultra ATA	MK2109MAT	3yr	$149
4.3GB	4200rpm	8.45mm	Ultra ATA	MK4309MAT	3yr	$189
6.4GB	4200rpm	12.7mm	Ultra ATA	MK6409MAV	3yr	$259

IBM

3.2GB	4200rpm	9.5mm	Ultra ATA	DB203240	2yr	$209
4.8GB	4200rpm	9.5mm	Ultra ATA	DB204860	2yr	$239
6.4GB	4200rpm	9.5mm	Ultra ATA	DB206480	2yr	$329
8.1GB	4900rpm	19mm	Ultra ATA	DP28100	1yr	$469
8.1GB	4200rpm	12.5mm	Ultra ATA	DC208100	2yr	$509
10.0GB	4200rpm	12.5mm	Ultra ATA	DC210000	2yr	$629
14.1GB	4900rpm	17mm	Ultra ATA	DC214000	2yr	$749

2.5" Accesories

Diskmanager Software for larger drives on older systems [DISKMANAGER]	$15
Parallel case for 2.5" drives [PPCASE2.5]	$89
PCMCIA case for 2.5" drives [PCMCIA2.5]	$169
2.5" to 3.5" adapter kit [IDEKIT-2.5]	$22
2.5" drive caddies for IBM, Toshiba, NEC, Compaq and others	$69
Adapter converts sub 19mm drives to 19mm mounting holes [CONV2.5+CAB]	$49

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DVD DRIVES

COMPLETE KITS

Smart Storage Solutions 3rd Generation Drive kit
4.8X Speed, w/ PCI MPEG-2 Decoder [SSSDVD3KIT] $219
Creative Labs Encore DVD Drive kit [CLDVD5KIT] $229

Bare	Interface	CD Speed	DVD Speed	Model#	
Toshiba	IDE	32X/95ms	135ms	SDM1202	$145
Pioneer	IDE	32X/90ms	120ms	DVD103	$135
Pioneer	SCSI	32X/90ms	120ms	DVD303	$169

Hollywood MPEG-2 Decoder [HOLLYWOOD] $99
WaveLink wireless transmitter allows you to transmit DVD movies from computer to TV [PCTOTV] $169

DVD RAM

TOSHIBA
SCSI DVD RAM drive, supports most formats #SDW1101 $459
PANASONIC
SCSI DVD RAM drive, supports most formats #LFD101U $569
DVD RAM Media
5.2GB media #DVDRAMDISK 1-4/5-9/10+ $40/$37/$35
Call or visit megahaus.com/dvdram for more drives.

CD ROM READERS

• SCSI DRIVES •

Brand	Model	Max Spin	Speed	Internal	External
NEC	CDR1810	24X	85ms	$70	$160
NEC	CDR1910	32X	85ms	$85	$175
Toshiba	XM6201B	32X	85ms	$90	$180
Plextor	PX32TS(tray)	32X	85ms	$119	$209
Plextor	PX32CS(caddy)	32X	85ms	$159	$249
Pioneer	DRU706S	36X	70ms	$89	$179
Toshiba	XM6401B	40X	79ms	$99	$189
Plextor	PX40TS	40X	85ms	$139	$229

• WIDE SCSI DRIVES •

Plextor	PX40TSUW	40X	85ms	$179	$289

• ATAPI DRIVES (IDE) •

Brand	Model	Max Spin	Speed	Internal	Int Kit
Toshiba	XM6202B	32X	80ms	$65	$95
Teac	CD532E	32X	85ms	$67	$97
Mitsumi	CRMCFX34X	34X	85ms	$59	$89
Pioneer	DRU944	40X	70ms	$64	$94
NEC	CDR3000	40X	75ms	$66	$96
Toshiba	XM6502B	40X	85ms	$75	$105
Memorex	CD48X	48X	90ms	$75	$105

External Parallel port IDE CD case [PPCASECD] $89
External PCMCIA IDE CD case [PCMCIACD] $159
HotPort external IDE CD case [HOTPORT] $129
NEW Creative Labs Sound Blaster PCI64 [SBPCI64] $75

• CD CHANGERS •

IDE	Model	Disks	Spin	Speed	Price
Nakamichi	MJS16A	5	16X	130ms	$129
SCSI					
Nakamichi	MJS16 int/ext	5	16X	130ms	$209/299

• CD ROM TOWERS •

Smart Storage Solutions

For fast access to multiple CD's at one time. Perfect for schools, networks, and more. Toll free support.
40X models now available!



4 DRIVE SCSI TOWERS

24X	85ms	NEC	$459
36X	70ms	Pioneer	$549
40X	79ms	Toshiba	$599
16X	130ms	Nakamichi	$1069

Nakamichi holds 20 disks!



7 DRIVE SCSI TOWERS

24X	85ms	NEC	$799
36X	70ms	Pioneer	$899
40X	79ms	Toshiba	$1739
16X	130ms	Nakamichi	$1869

Nakamichi holds 35 disks!

Ethernet CD Towers - Built-in 10 baseT or 100 baseT Ethernet connection. Hooks directly to your network. Designed for mixed LAN environment - can be used simultaneously from Windows 95, NT, OS/2, DOS, and UNIX platforms using Novell Netware, Microsoft Networks, and NFS.

Speed	Brand	Access	7 Drive	Item #	13 Drive	Item #
24X	NEC	85ms	$1399	#SSS1810X7N	$2359	#SSS1810X13P
32X	Toshiba	85ms	$1499	#SSS6201X7N	$2629	#SSS6201X13P
40X	Toshiba	79ms	$1599	#SSS6201X7N	$2809	#SSS6201X13P
16X	Nakamichi 5 Disk Changers		$2569	#SSSMJ16SX7P	$4609	#SSSMJ16SX13P

100 baseT models add $240 to 7 drive model, and $100 to 13 drive model.

NEW! Auto Switching Ethernet CD Towers - auto switches between 10 baseT or 100 baseT Ethernet connection. Hooks directly to your network. Designed for mixed LAN environment - can be used simultaneously from Win 95, NT, Win for Workgroups, OS/2, HTTP, Mac, and UNIX.
32X drive speed, 8 drive tower Item #SSS32X8N $1599

TAPE BACKUP

• Iomega 7GB •

Both include backup software for Dos and Windows
Internal - [DITTOMAXI] $175
External for Parallel Port [DITTOMAXX] $175
Tapes 3GB [DITT03] $19, 5GB [DITT05] $25, 7GB [DITT07] $28

• Seagate 8GB TR4 •

4GB native and 8GB compressed capacity. Backup rate up to 60MB/min. Includes DOS/Win backup software. Tapes $26 [TR4]
Internal IDE, with 1 tape [STT28000A] $195
Internal SCSI, with 1 tape [STT28000N] $219
External SCSI, with 1 tape [STT28000NX] $299

• Hewlett Packard 10GB TR5 •

Includes backup software for Dos & Win. TR5 tapes $44.
SCSI Internal TR5 [C4394A] $419
SCSI External [C4394AX] $509

• Iomega 10GB •

Both include backup software for Dos and Windows
Internal [DITTOMAXPRO] $265
External for Parallel Port [DITTOMAXPRX] $265
Tapes 5GB [DITT05] $2, 7GB [DITT07] $28, 10GB [DITT010] $32

• Seagate 10GB TR5 •

Includes backup software TR5 tapes $44.
SCSI Bare [STT2200BARE] $439 NT/Netware software[STT220000N] $529
IDE Internal Dos/Win software [STT220000A] $405

SCSI TAPE DRIVES

Cap. (Native/Comp.)		Max. Speed	Brand & Model	
			• 4mm DAT Drives •	
2GB	4GB	66MB/min	Seagate STD24000N	$529
4GB	8GB	66MB/min	Seagate DDS-2 STD28000N	$629
4GB	8GB	90MB/min	Sony SDT7000AI	$559
4GB	8GB	60MB/min	HP C1599AI	$719
6GB	n/a	52MB/min	Indigita IDT2500 (free software)	**$489**
12GB	24GB	144MB/min	Sony DDS-3 SDT9000AI	$759
12GB	24GB	132MB/min	Seagate STD224000N	$849
12GB	24GB	120MB/min	HP DDS-3 C1554AI	$929
20GB	40GB	288MB/min	Sony DDS-4 SDT10000AI	$1129
32GB	64GB	90MB/min	Sony TSL7000 8 tape loader	$1899
48GB	96GB	48MB/min	Seagate STL496000N	$2199
72GB	144GB	120MB/min	HP C5648A 6 tape loader	$2679

Media 2-4/5-9/10+ 120Meter (DAT120M)$16/13/11 • 125Meter (DAT125M) $31/28/26

			• EXABYTE 8mm DAT Drives •	
7GB	14GB	120MB/min	ELIANT820	$1279
20GB	40GB	360MB/min	EXB8900	$2489
70GB	140GB	60MB/min	EXB10H 10 tape loader (Ext)	$2699

Media 2-4/5-9/10+ 160Meter (DAT160M8MM)$18/15/13

			• QUANTUM DLT Drives •	
15GB	30GB	150MB/min	DLT2000XT	$799
20GB	40GB	180MB/min	DLT4000	$1859
35GB	70GB	600MB/min	DLT7000	$4579

Media 2-4/5-9/10+ (DLT3) $38/37/35 • (DLT3XT) $41/40/38
(DLT4) $80/79/77 • (DLTCLEAN) $41/40/38
Call for external, and Differential models.

• AIT Drives •

Sony, Seagate call for price

Compressed capacity is with maximum compression. Speed and amount of compression depends on your application. [1]with software compression. [2]includes DOS/WIN backup software with compression. Autoloaders may require certain options to get advertised capacity.

BACKUP SOFTWARE

Seagate Backup Exec

Windows 95 &98 [SBEWDWD] $69
Windows NT workstation [SBENTWD] $99
Windows NT single server [SBENTSE] $459
Windows NT multi server [SBENTME] $879
Small Business Server Suite [SBENTSB] $259
Netware single server & 25 users [SBENW25] $319
Netware single server & unlimited users [SBENWSE] $459
Netware multi server [SBENWME] $879

Indigita

TapeTrax software allows most SCSI tape drives to be used as a standard disk drive under Win95 [TAPETRAX] $89

NovaStor

NovaWorks CD contains backup software for DOS, Win 3.1, Windows 95, Win NT, Macintosh, and OS/2 including WARP
Compatible with SCSI, IDE, and QIC drives [NOVACD] $65
Novell NLM single server [NOVANWSE] $229
Novell NLM multi server and 25 users [NOVANW] $539
Novell NLM multi server and unlimited users [NOVANWUNL] $759
NT server [NOVANTSE] $229
NT server and unlimited users [NOVANT] $379
NT unlimited servers and unlimited users [NOVANTUNL] $759

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• CEDAR DUPLICATORS •

- Attaches to your PC or Mac SCSI Port.
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1 CD-R drive #CEDARDUP50 $4999
1 CD-R drive, and CD Printer #CEDARDUP50P $5999
Other brands & models at www.megahaus.com/dupe

REMOVABLE MEDIA

• Iomega 100MB ZIP •

Internal IDE [ZIP100A] / 10 Pack [ZIP100A-10] $89/ $799
Internal SCSI [ZIP100I] $119
External SCSI [ZIP100] $119
Parallel External [PPZIP100] $119
External USB [ZIP100USB] $149
External Parallel & SCSI connector [ZIP100PLUS] $165
Zip media [ZIP100C] 2-4/5-9/10+ $13/12/11

• Iomega 2GB JAZ •

Internal SCSI [JAZ2I] $289
External SCSI [JAZ2X] $319
Jaz 2GB media [JAZ2GIGPC] 2-5/5-9/10+ $86/84/82
Jaz 1GB media [JAZ1GIGPC] 2-5/5-9/10+ $77/75/73

OPTICAL DRIVES

• Maxoptix 2.6 Gig •

3,868rpm, 19ms, 1MB buffer. Supports direct overwrite media. Compatible with 5 1/4" 650MB, 1GB, 1.3GB, & 2.6GB disks.
SCSI Drive Internal [T5-2600] / External [T5-2600X] $1089 / $1179
2.6GB media (TJ2.6) 1-4/5-9/10+ $40/$36/$34

• Maxoptix 5.2 Gig •

2,942rpm, 20ms, 4MB buffer. Supports direct overwrite media. Compatible with 5 1/4" 650MB, 1GB, 1.3GB, & 2.6GB disks.
SCSI Drive Internal [T6-5200] / External [T6-5200X] $1529 / $1619
5.2GB media (MAX5.2) 1-4/5-9/10+ $83/$80/$77

MAKE IT REMOVABLE



DATA-PORT V Removable Drive Brackets

High quality construction. Gold plated connections. Features built in cooling fan, SCSI ID switch. Metal frame construction. Plastic cartridge with metal top and bottom covers.

COMPLETE KIT	Platinum	Black
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ULTRA WIDE SCSI (DP2200UW)	$139	$159
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Metal IDE (DPACARTM)	$59	$79
SCSI (DPSCART)	$40	$60
ULTRA WIDE SCSI (DPUWCART)	$69	$89
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SCSI (DPSFRAME)	$54	same
ULTRA WIDE SCSI (DPUWFRAME)	$80	same

DATA-PORT VI Removable Drive Brackets

Same as DataPort V but add all metal construction and fan failure alarm.

COMPLETE KIT		
Includes 1 frame, and 1 cartridge		
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ULTRA WIDE SCSI (DP2200UWM)	$159	$179
SCA (uses SCA drives) (DP2200SCA)	$159	$179
EXTRA CARTRIDGE		
SCSI (DPSCARTM)	$60	$80
ULTRA WIDE SCSI (DPUWCARTM)	$89	$109
SCA (uses SCA drives) (DPSCACART)	$89	$109
EXTRA FRAME		
SCSI (DPSFRAMEAL)	$54	same
ULTRA WIDE SCSI (DPUWFRAMEA)	$80	same
SCA (DPSCAFRAME)	$80	same
ACCESSORIES for DataPort V and VI		
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Internal [CRMC4801EK] / Hot Port external [CRMC4801TXK] $199/$329

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Packet write, 1MB buffer, tray load
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SCSI internal w/ controller, software & 1 disk [CDR55SK] $329

• Plextor 4x12 •

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SCSI internal w/ controller, software & 1 disk [PXWRITERK] $409

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SCSI Internal [CDR8X20S] / External [CDR8X20SX] $349/$439

• Plextor 8x20 •

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Internal [PXR820T] / external [PXR820TX] $459/$549
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Int with software, 1 RW disk [CRMC4802EK] $249
HotPort external [CRMC4802EHP] $379

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Packet write, 2MB buffer. Tray loading.
IDE internal [XRW2080] /external [XRW2080HP] $239/$389
Int w/software, 1 RW disk [XRW2080K] $259

• Hewlett Packard 4x2x24 ReWritable •

CD-Writer Plus 8100, Writes to CDR (write once) or CDRW (rewritable) media. Supports packet write, 1MB buffer, tray load. 1 RW disk.
IDE internal with software [C4392A] $339
Hot Port external [C4392HP] $469

• Ricoh 4x4x20 ReWritable •

Writes to CDR (write once) at 4X or CDRW (rewritable) media at 4X. Supports packet write, 2MB buffer. Tray loading.
IDE internal [MP7040A] $329
IDE internal with software & 1 disk [MP7040AK] $359
IDE external with controller, software & 1 disk [MP7040AXK] $499
Hot Port external [MP7040AHP] $459

• Plextor 4x2x20 ReWritable •

Packet write, 2MB buffer. Tray loading. With software & 1 disk
SCSI internal [PXW4220I] /external [PXW4220X] $419/$499

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Drive Kit	$359	$459
Complete Kit with ISA controller	$409	$509
Complete Kit with PCI controller	$459	$559

• 4x4x20 IDE CD ReWritable •

- 4x Record, 4x Rewrite, 20x Read, Ricoh mechanism
- Packet write compatible, 2MB cache
- Tray Loading, includes 5 rewritable disks

Drive Kit	$369	n/a
Complete Kit with ISA controller	$409	$499
Complete Kit with PCI controller	$429	n/a

• 4x8 SCSI CD ROM RECORDER •

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- 1MB buffer, tray Loading

	Internal	External
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Complete Kit with ISA controller	$309	$409
Complete Kit with PCI controller	$359	$459

• 4x24 SCSI CD ROM RECORDER •

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- Tray loading.

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Complete Kit with ISA controller	$319	$419
Complete Kit with PCI controller	$369	$469

• 8x20 SCSI CD ROM RECORDER•

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Writes to CD-R at 4X, and Reads at 8X. 2MB data buffer for more reliable performance. Tray loading for easy use. Packet write compatible. Price includes mastering software and 1 CD-R disk.

IDE $199 CRMC4801EK

4x2x8 CD-RW

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IDE $249 CRMC4801EK



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20 Pack [CDR74B-20]	4x	$36	$33
50 Pack [CDR74B-50]	4x	$74	$70
100 Pack [CDR74B-100]	4x	$139	$129
5 Pack [CDR74-5]	8x	$21	$19
20 Pack [CDR74-20]	8x	$42	$39
50 Pack [CDR74-50]	8x	$93	$89
100 Pack [CDR74-100]	8x	$159	$149

• CD REWRITABLE MEDIA •

5 Pack [CDR74WB-5]	2x	$33	$29
20 Pack [CDR74WB-20]	2x	$109	$105
50 Pack [CDR74WB-50]	2x	$249	$239
100 Pack [CDR74WB-100]	2x	$449	$439
5 Pack [CDR74W-5]	4x	$59	$55
20 Pack [CDR74W-20]	4x	$149	$145
50 Pack [CDR74W-50]	4x	$359	$349
100 Pack [CDR74W-100]	4x	$689	$679

• CD RECORDABLE - PRINTABLE SURFACE •

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600	Pentium® II 300	13.3 ACT	64/6.4/DVD/56k	3299.99
600	Pentium® II 366	13.3 ACT	64/6.4/24X/56k	2999.99
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380Z	Pentium® II 233	13.3 ACT	32/4/24X/Opt.	1599.99
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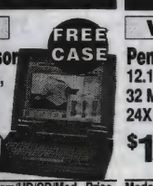


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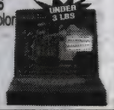


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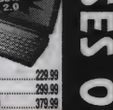
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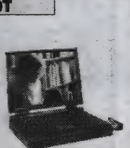
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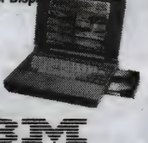
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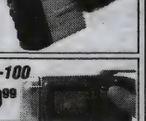
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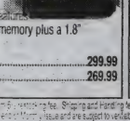


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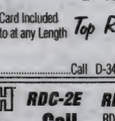


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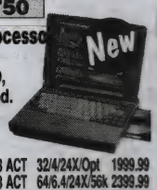


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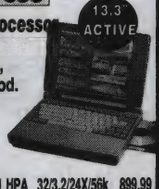
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BJC-80
Portable Color Printer
Up to 720x360DPI, 4 PPM
Black 2PPM Color, 30 Page
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Pentium® II 300 Processor
128MB Ram/6.4 Gb HD
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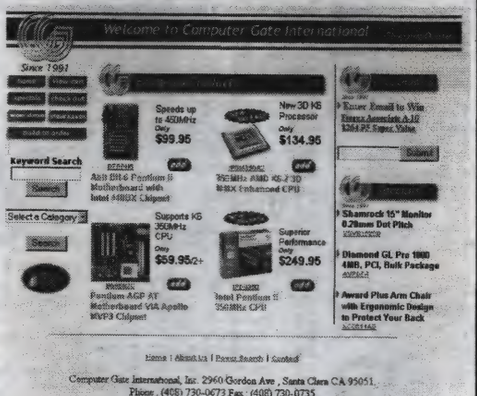
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PC CABLES

PRINTER CABLE
- Bi-directional Support
- DB25 male to centronics 36M

Assembled/Molded	Assembled	Molded
CP1806/CPM1806 6'	0.75	0.79
CP1810/CPM1810 10'	1.69	1.99
CP1815/CPM1815 15'	2.29	2.69
CP2506/CPM2506 6'	1.99	2.49

IEEE 1284 PRINTER CABLES

CPR6D25C36	DB25M-CENT36M 6'	4.99
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MOLDED MODEM CABLES
- DB9 Female to DB25 Male

CDM0925FM3	3'	1.85
CDM0925FM6	6'	2.25

Best Price

RS232 CABLE
All with 25 wires straight thru & fully shielded.
- DB25MM (male to male) can be used from PC to serial device
- 15', 25', 50' and 100' AVAILABLE

		Assembled	Molded
CR/CRM2506MM/MF	6'	1.69	1.89
CR/CRM2510MM/MF	10'	2.29	2.69

IEEE 1284 SERIAL CABLES

CRSMM06BE	DB25M-DB25M 6'	3.99

SCSI CABLES

SCSI II CABLES

CS5003HCN	3'	HDB50M-Cent 50M	19.50
CS5006HCN	6'	HDB50M-Cent 50M	25.50
CS50253HDB	3'	HDB50M-DB25M	19.50
CS50256HDB	6'	HDB50M-DB25M	25.50
CS5006HHDB	6'	HDB50M-HDB50M	25.50

SCSI III CABLES

CSCH603	3'	HDB 68M-68M	29.95
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CSCH6C503	3'	HDB 68M-Cent50M	24.95
CSCH6C506	6'	HDB 68M-Cent50M	29.95

SCSI INTERNAL FLAT CABLE
- 50pin, Internal SCSI Flat Cable
- 23" for (2) SCSI Devices — CFS/DSC 1.59
- 51" for (6) SCSI Devices — CF7/DSC 4.90

SCSI III FLAT CABLE
UL Approved. Used for Adaptec AHA–2940 UW. 68 Pin Male
- CFHS368 36" SCSI III 12.95 9.95/5+
- 67" SCSI 3 w/8 Connectors — CFHS868 67" SCSI III 24.95 19.95/5+

Best Price

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MODULAR ADAPTERS
Change RS232 port to RJ45/11/12 modular jack; molded

AM4509F/M	RJ45 to DB25F	
AM4525F/M	RJ45 to DB25F	1.79

ADAPTERS

AD0925MM/MF/FF/FM	DB9 to DB15/25	.99

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Change the gender of your cable connector.
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15, 36 and 50 pin also available

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3D Pn'P SOUND CARD
Plug n' Play, Win95 support and 3D Sound and 3D joystick support
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All speakers are magnetically shielded

MIDILAND™ 3D SPEAKERS
- 120W PMPO, 3" full range
- Separate treble, bass and volume
- External power adapter included

MSP1703D 120W 24.95

MIRAGE™ II SPEAKERS
- 100W PMPO; Freq. response 40hz-20khz; 2"x3.5" full range
- Measures: 3.2" x 8.2" x 3.7"
- Separate power and volume
- External power adapter included

MSPMMII Mirage™ II 17.95

60W Hi-Fi SPEAKERS
- PMPO 60 watts; 2–channel stereo amplifier. Measures: 2" x 3"
- With volume control & AC adapter

MSPE691 6.95

4-WATT SPEAKERS
- Measures: 3.75"W x 3"D x 4.5"H
- Input power: 4 watts/each

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- Sensitivity: 102 dB, Freq. 20–20,000 Hz

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Stereo headset with closed vinyl ear cushion.

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Creates a hands-free environment.
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- Compatible with all standard caddy CD ROM Drives

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BUY 3+ $12.95
- The Fast Cooler features dual cooling fans to dissipate HDD heat.
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- A must have for high speed IDE/SCSI hard drives.

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- For 486 and K5 cpu

COKIT2 486 Cooler 3.49
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- Thermoelectric Paltier chip ball bearing cooling kit

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- With 3 pin connector support LDCM3.1 MB

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- Second case fan for computer. Includes power adapter; 3.15" x 3.15" x 1"

BCFH01 Sleeve Fan 4.95
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BCFH08B 8x8cm 6.95 6.49/5+
- Ball Bearing Fan w/ 3 pin connector for LDCM Motherboard. Auto restart and circuit build-in.

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4x4 cm, 5x5 cm, 6x6 cm Case fans are available on web

ADJUSTABLE PC AIR CONDITIONER
- Circulates air throughout your CPU to eliminate heat spot.
- For ISA and PCI slot

COFC-2 Two Fans 17.49

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- For PS/2 or XT power supplies
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- For AT power supplies
- Measures: 3.65" x 3.65" x 1"

PFANA 5.95 5.49/4+

POWER PROTECTION

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- Compatible with IBM PC AT
- Input Voltage:115/220V selectable

P2ZFP2	AT, 200W	25.95
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INTERNAL HEAT MONITORING
- Mounts on 5.25" bay plate. Monitor internal temperature on large, easy to read LCD display

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Equipped with "Magic Button" making web browsing easy. True 400dpi high resolution. Up, down, right, & left scrolling. 4 buttons

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ERGONOMIC 3-BUTTON SERIAL MOUSE
- Ergonomic design for easy handle
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Mini Serial Mouse
Small shape design for kids and desktop PC
- Opto-mechanical encoder
- Dimension: 2"x3.5"x1.1" (H)

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SERIAL MOUSE
- Opto–Mechanical, microswitch design for the best performance
- 260–2600dpi resolution

OU101 $3.99

PREMIUM MOUSE PACKAGE
- Includes: Serial mouse(OU105), pad and pocket

OU102 Deluxe Mouse Package 7.99

USB Internet Mouse
- Magic middle button between normal mouse and scroll mode. No need for additional mouse movement when in "scroll" mode. 400 dpi
- 3 buttons with USB cable connector

JMSUSB1 14.95

PREMUM PS/2 MOUSE
with DIN-6 Female connecter
- Opto-Mechanical mouse
- Resolution from 300 -3000 dpi

OU107 PS/2 mouse 8.95

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SCSI EXTERNAL CASES
- For external CD ROM, tape drives or hard drives. Power supply 150 watt
- Internal SCSI cables w/centronic connectors
- 1 SCSI 110v/220v auto switchable

ECHD1 49.95
- Power supply 150 watt
- 2 SCSI Devices 110v

ECHD2 69.95
- 4 bay external case for SCSI
- For HDD, MO, CD–ROM, DAT. SCSI–1, SCSI–2; 250W output. Measures: 7"W x 14"D x 10 1/3"H

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- 8 bay external case Ultra WideSCSI case
- Equipped with 300W power supply and U/C/T audio jack, internal SCS III cable included

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Make your hard drive removable. Great for data exchange, data back–up and sharing. Easy replacement among multiple PCs, home PCs and office workstations. High quality with a complete kit to mount a 3.5" hard drive. Front handle makes it easy to transport, just plug and go. Portable and secure. Ideal for RAID Systems and servers. Hot Swap electronic lock allows you quick and easy hard drive changes.

New IDE Hot Swapable Rack
Revolution of Mobile Rack Hot Swap Solution!
*Easy-to-use. Single 5.25" Bay for Multiple 3.5" Removable Storage Devices, Such as ZIPs, HDDs, MOs, LS120s, without Shutting Down The System.
* Comes with one inner tray, rack, Electronic key lock, software, and retail packaging.
* US Patent & CE Approval.

XMKARH37I 49.95 **44.95/5+**

Ultra Wide SCSI, HDB68 pin female

RH-19 Complete set w/ Electronic Lock, Fan, aluminum Tray, and ID selector.. For 4500-7200RPM HDDs.
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NEW REDUCED PRICES

IDE, IDC 40 pin male, A group
Inner HDD Tray for RH-10/12/20/40 IDE OnlY
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XMKRH401 new 44.95 39.95/5+

IDE, IDC 40 pin male, B group
Inner HDD Tray for RH-17/26/27/32 IDE OnlY
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RH-27 Complete Set w/ Electronic Lock, auto door set, fan & plastic. For 4500-5400 RPM HDDs.
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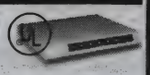
RH-32 Complete Set w/ Electronic Lock, auto door set, fan & Alum. tray For 3600-10000 RPM HDDs.
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RH-30 Complete set w/ Electronic Lock, plastic
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POWER PROTECTION

POWER CONSOLE

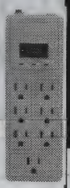


- Circuit breaker,with reset button
- Modem protection (PP06D)
- Full 3 line surge protection (3 m.o.v's) (PP06D)
- Noise filter (EMI/RFI) (PP06D)

PP06U Basic Power Center **11.95**
PP06D with Modem Protection **15.95**

POWER STRIP

ALL UL APPROVED



2x3 POWER STRIP with MODEM PROTECTION

- Surge Indicator Light; Durable ABS Plastic
- Circuit Breaker, EMI, 3 MOV, 6' Cord

CG26B 2x3 Strip **7.49**

7 OUTLET POWER STRIP w/TRANSFORMER SPACE

- Extra Outlet for Transformer, Power Surge Indicator, Circuit Breaker, EMI, 1 MOV, 4' Cord

CG237P with Transformer **5.95**

POWER STRIPS with SURGE PROTECTOR



- Durable plastic, Built–in circuitbreak er, 1 MOV line protection

Best Price!

CG26P1 6 outlets, plastic, 4' cord $2.95



- 7 outlets, plastic, EMI, Vertical socket, 3MOV Protection

CG27P1 7 outlets, 6' Power Cord, EMI **6.95**
CG26P2 6 outlets, 4' Power Cord **3.95**



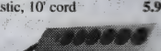
- 5 outlets, plastic, EMI, modem/ phone jack, w/3 line surge protector

CG25D 4' Power Cord **6.95**



- 1 MOV Line Protection, EMI noise filter.

CG26P3 6 outlets, plastic, 6' cord **4.95**
EPS10P 6 outlets, plastic, 10' cord **5.95**



- Metal, 1 MOV, Built–in circuit breaker.

CG26M 6 outlets, metal, 6' Cord **5.95**



- Modem/phone jack, 3 x2 outlet, metal EMI/RFI, 3MOV line protection

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POWERFUL UPS SYSTEM



- Protects against surges, spikes and blackouts.
- Built–in interface for Novell, Unix, and WIn95/98/NT.
- Intelligent & easy to operate.
- Up to 65min back-up time.

PUP0425U 425VA, 110V **99.95**
PUP0650U 650VA, 110V **129.00**
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POWER CORD EXTENSION



- 6' 3–prong HP Male plug & Female socket

CO06EX 6' **1.49**

CO06EX

POWER CORD



- Connect wall outlet to computer or monitor

CO06SUL 6' **1.29**

CO06SUL

- Connect computer to monitor power cord

CO01MO 1' **1.19**
CO06MO 6' **1.49**



CO06MO

FLOPPY ITEMS

HIGH DENSITY FDD

- 1.44 MB FDD; Easy integration

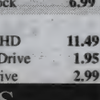
GFDM144F FDD **17.99** **14.99/10+**
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XMKHD2 Converts 2.5" HD to 3.5" HD **11.49**
MKF 3.5" Converts to 5 1/4" Floppy Drive **1.95**
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PREMIUM 12 PIECE TOOL KITS



TK110 w/ Parts Tube **6.99**
TK113 w/ IC Insertion **6.99**

PROFESSIONAL TOOL KIT



- 25 piece set Includes: Phillips: #0, 1; Slotted ScrewDriver:#1, 4, 2.0, 2.4, 3.0; Socket Set: 5, 6, 8, 10mm; 10pc. bit pack; 4" nose pliers, 4" side cutter; Tweezers; Handle, Extension bar

TK500 Professional Tool Kit **14.90**

20 PIECE DELUXE TOOL KIT



- All the tools you need for your PC.

TK220 $19.50

8x8 DIE CRIMP TOOL

TK8C Die Crimp for RJ45 **10.99**

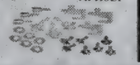
8C MODULAR PLUGS



APH6CF

APH8CF RJ45 Flat Plug 100pcs. **8.95**
APH8CR RJ45 Round Plug 100pcs. **11.95**

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CFLSCW1 $1.25

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The ultimate socket 7 100Mhz Bus Speed motherboard in AT/ATX format:

VA-503+/PA-2013! Support AMD K6-2 CPU up to 400Mhz & 1MB L2 cache. Supports PC100 memory. A perfect solution for any system board upgrade.

Pentium MMX 100Mhz Bus Speed Motherboard

- Supports Intel Pentium processor with MMX technology 166-233 MHz, AMD-K6/K6-2 3D PR166-PR300 CPU, and Cyrix/IBM 6x86MX PR166-PR233 CPU. B5FVA503+

	Form Factor/CPU	*Chipset*	*Memory*	*Cache*	*Slot*
B5FPA2013DF	ATX, single CPU	VIA MVP3	384MB	1MB	4PCI,2ISA,1AGP
B5FVA503+F	AT, single CPU	VIA MVP3	512MB	1MB	3PCI,3ISA,1AGP

Prices is so low, we can't list it here. Please visit our web site or call us for current pricing.

MONITOR ITEMS

MONITOR ARMS

- Metal platform, holds up to 66lbs or 17" monitor.
- Keyboard tray extends up to 11"



XMA06

XMA06 **$16.95**

MONITOR ARM

- 11 1/4" x 11 1/4" platform
- 360 rotation, arm extends 14 1/2"
- Clamps to desktop
- Holds up to 55 lbs.
- Includes keyboard holder



MM02 Hold 12"-15" monitor $23.95

- Same design as MM02. **Can be mounted on the wall. More stability.** supports up to 57 lbs & adjustable KB tray angle; platform 13 3/4" x 13 3/4"

XMA05 Hold 17"-19" monitor $34.95

RGB MONITOR CABLE



HDD 15M– 5M BNC 6'
CVG15MN6N5 **15.95**

VGA or SVGA MONITOR CABLE

- Connects VGA analog monitors with VGA display
- For VGA monitor to CPU or extension
- DBH15 Male to DBH15 Male

ASSEMBLED			MOLDED	
CMV15MM-6	6'	**1.99**	CMMV15MM6	**2.39**
CMV15MM10	10'	**2.49**	CMMV15MM10	**2.99**

DBH15 Male to DBH15 Female

CMV1515MF	6'	**1.99**	CMMV15MF	**2.39**
CMV1515MF2	12'	**2.69**	CMMV15MF12	**2.99**

DB9 MONO MONITOR/RS232 MOUSE EXTENSION CABLE

- For monochrome, RGB, EGA, & Multisync monitors
- DB9 Male/Female, Male/Male, Female/Female

ASSEMBLED			MOLDED	
CM0909MF-6	6'	**1.49**	**CMM0909MF6**	**1.89**
CM0909MM-6	6'	**1.49**	**CMM0909MM6**	**1.89**
CM0909FF-6	6'	**1.49**	**CMM0909FF6**	**1.99**

SWITCH BOXES

IEEE PRINTER AUTO–SWITCH



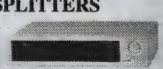
- Printer Autoswitch plus Intelligent Parahub for transferring files between 2 PCs (WASAAF201)
- Software/Hot Key control
- Supports IEEE–1284 nibble mode

WASAAF201 2 to 1, or 1 to 2 **39.95**

- Connect 4 PCs to 1 printer, reversible

WASAAS401 4 to 1, or 1 to 4 **79.95**

MULTIPLE VIDEO SPLITTERS



- Show the same image on multiple monitors; supports distance up to 210' with HDB15 connector

WSPAV104 4 Monitor,1280x1024,180Mhz **74.95**
WSPAV108 8 Monitor,1280x1024,180Mhz **99.95**

ELECTRONIC CPU SWITCH BOX

- 2 PCs to 1 console, AT & PS/2

WCSAC122 **124.95**

- 4 PCs to 1 console, AT & PS/2

WCSAC104 **179.95**

- 6 PCs to 1 console, AT only

WCSAC106 **199.95**

- 8 PCs to 1 console, AT & PS/2. Use CCK1012A/P Cable
- Support Microsoft Intelligent mouse

WCSAC128 **379.95**

PARALLEL DUAL DIRECTIONAL AUTO-SWITCH



- 1 Computer to 2 or 4 printers or visa versa with manual selection

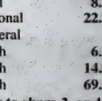
SB2502BD AB Bi–Directional **8.99**
SB2504BD ABCD Bi–Directional **22.95**

- 2 or 4 computers to a parallel peripheral

SB2502AU 2 Way Auto Switch **6.95**
SB2504AU 4 Way Auto Switch **14.95**
WASP811P 8 Way Auto Switch **69.95**

All Switch Boxes allow one computer to share 2 or 4 output devices. or vice versa.

DB25 SWITCH BOXES



All DB-25 female connectors

SB2502 Parallel Switch, 2-way **4.95**
SB2504 Parallel Switch, 4-way **7.95**

HDB15 VGA SWITCH BOX

Allows one computer to share 2/4 VGA or vice versa.

SB1502 2 WAY, HD15F **7.95**
SB1504 4 WAY, HD15F **9.95**

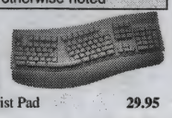
VGA/KB/MICE SWITCH BOX

AB switch, HD–15F/DIN 5F/DB–9M
WSBKMV2 **16.95**
ABCD switch, HD–15F/DIN 5F/DB–9M
WSBKMV4 **19.95**

KEYBOARD ITEMS

All keyboards include a 6' cable with Din5 connectors unless otherwise noted

ERGONOMIC KEYBOARD w/ WRIST PAD



- 104 key ergonomic keyboard

KCC7903W with Wrist Pad **29.95**

MITSUMI™ 104 Keys



- 104 Key membrane
- Measures: 20" x 10" x 2"

KMMZW104S Din5 Port **9.95**
KMMZW104P PS/2 Port **9.95**

KMMZW104S

Economic Win98 Keyboard



- 104 keys compatible windows keyboard
- High quality rubber mechanical click key switches. 10 Million life cycles per switch
- Measure: 18.6"x7.4"x0.1"

KQ104S AT 104 key **8.95**

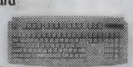
Big Trackball Win98 Keyboard



- 104 keys windows keyboard
- Mechanical click key switches
- Opto-mechanical large trackball and button for easy use.
- 20 to 6400 variable high resolution
- Measure: 19"x6.8"x0.13"

KQTB1 **74.95**

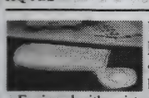
Mini Trackball Windows Keyboard



- 104 keys compatible windows keyboard
- Rubber mechanical click key switch
- Opto-mechanical mini trackball, 20 to 6400 variable high resolution
- Measure: 18.6"x7.4"x0.13"

KQTB2 **29.95**

UNDER CARRIAGE DRAWER



- Mouse tray can be installed on left or right of keyboard.
- Equipped with wrist rest to protect wrist
- Hold standard & MS size keyboards

XKDC55M NEW **15.49** **13.95/3+**

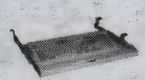
KEYBOARD DRAWER



- Ball bearing "easy glide" slides lock
- Holds keyboards up to 20.25" x 9.5" x 2.25"

KDMT **14.95**

UNDER TABLE KEY-BOARD DRAWER



- Ideal for Windows keyboard
- Holds keyboard up to 20"x9"• Smooth ball bearing glide
- Measures: 20.25"W x 9.5"D x 2.25"H

KDMU **8.95**

KEYBOARD ARM w/ TRAY



- Tray designed to hold MS keyboard and mouse
- Adjustable heavy-duty keyboard holder
- Slides in and out,up and down, tilts and swivels

XKDMA05M NEW **39.95**

PS/2 KB/MICE CABLES

PS/2 MOUSE CABLES

- Use as PS/2 mouse and keyboard extension

CK0606FM	6'	Mini Din6F to Mini Din6M	**1.69**
CKB6MM06	6'	Mini Din6M to Mini Din6M	**1.69**
CKB6MM10	10'	Din6M to Din6M	**1.99**
CKB6MF10	10'	Din6F to Din6F	**1.99**
CKB6MF25	25'	Din6M to Din6F	**3.49**

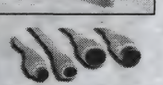
PS/2 MOUSE CABLE ADAPTER



- Use with any motherboard
- Assembled to fit your needs

CIJM658F 6" **1.49**

KEYBOARD EXTENSIONS



- Ideal for floor-mounted PCs
- Designed for IBM style keyboard cables

CK0506MM	6'	DIN5M–DIN5M	**1.39**
CK0506FM	6'	DIN5F–DIN5M	**1.39**
CK0512FM	12'	DIN5F–DIN5M	**1.89**
CK0606FM	6'	DIN6F–DIN6M, for PS/2	**1.69**
CKB6MM06	6'	DIN6M–DIN6M, for PS/2	**1.69**

KEYBOARD ADAPTER

AK0505MM	Din5M to Din5M connector 6"	**.99**
AK0506FM	Din5F to Din6M connector 6"	**.99**
AK0506MF	Din5M to Din6F connector 6"	**.99**

LAN TESTER KIT



LAN TESTER

Cross wire or straight through? This kit allows you to easily read and test cable pin configuration as well as BNC and RJ45/RJ12/RJ11 network cables. Tests cable up to 1000' w/ remote unit.

NTEH256551 LAN Tester **59.95**

ETHERTEST TESTER



Quickly diagnoses whether your 10base–T card or hub is causing your problem. Comes with link status, receive data, and polarity indicators. Just push and test. RJ45 connector

NTEH256651 **154.95**

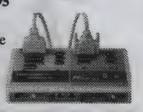
MULTI–NETWORK CABLE TESTER KIT



Auto scans cables and wires. Use tester for 10Base–T cables, 10Base–2 cables, RJ45/RJ11 modular cables, and 365A, TIA–568B and Token Ring cables.

NTEH251451 **49.95**

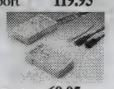
PC CABLE TESTER



- An excellent tool for quickly testing the pin configuration or trouble shooting.
- With RJ, BNC, HDB15, DB9. DB25, Centronic, DB15 tester ports

NTEH258981 **99.95**
NTEH258991 W/ extra IEEE 1394 port **119.95**

TONE GENERATOR



- Generates a signal from one end and traces the cables from the other end by probe. Easy to identify

NTEH256731 W/ Tone generator & Probe **69.95**

NETWORKING

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Available in: Gray (A) Red (R), Yellow (Y), Blue (E) Green (G), Black (B) and White (W)

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CNWTC4507	7', Level 5	**2.49**
CNWTC4515	14', Level 5	**3.49**
CNWTC4525	25', Level 5	**5.95**
CNWTC4550	50', Level 5	**9.95**
CNWTC451Z	100', Level 5	**19.95**

10/100BASE–T BULK STATION WIRE, CAT 5

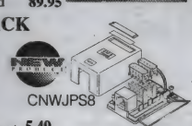


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CPH8TWR5 Solid
CNWTC451ZZ Stranded **89.95**

CAT 5 SURFACE JACK



- T568B, RJ45 support
- Kit includes: mounting screws, double–sided adhesive pad, labels and protective label covers

CNWJPS8

CNWSJS8 Single port **5.49**
CNWSJD8 Dual port **8.95**

CAT 5 KEYSTONE JACK



- UL and cUL listed. Available in: Red (R), Yellow (Y), Black (K) Green (G), Blue (B) and White (W)

CNWKJR/Y/K/G/B/W **5.99**

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FDD & HDD FLAT CABLE

- 32" 34pin flat cable for 5.25" & 3.5" FDD

CFFD/TW **1.59**

- 19" 40pin IDE HDD flat cable with 3 connector

CF2/HD **1.39**

Additional Flat Cables available

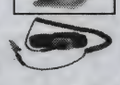
MONITOR FILTER



- Reduce glare and reflection
- Enhances sharpness/contrast

MF14G for 15", Color **4.90**
XMF17G for 17", Color **6.95**

ANTI-STATIC WRIST



With ground wire and alligator clip

WRIST Anti–Static **2.90**

Small KB Anti–Static Pad



- Simply attach ground cord to metal surface. Built-in resistor
- Measures: 12" x 21.5"

VS1024 **5.90**

Large Anti–Static Pad



- Ideal for everyday use and busy computer techs
- Measures: 19 1/2" x 23"

VS1919 **6.90**

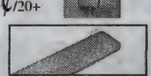
MOUSE PADS



- Anti-static rubber/10 1/4" x 8 3/4"

OUPB	Blue		
OUPG	Grey	69¢	59¢/25+
OUPR	Red		
OUH01	Pocket	79¢	65¢/20+

KB WRIST REST



KBWR	Blue	
XKBWRG	Gray	1.99

POWER CABLES

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AD525F	6" "Y" Cable	79¢
AD535F	5" For 3.5" FDD	79¢

AD535F

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96 meg ram 4.0 Gig Drive 24x CD

56k fax modem Active Color

$1299



Compaq LTE 5380

Pentium 133

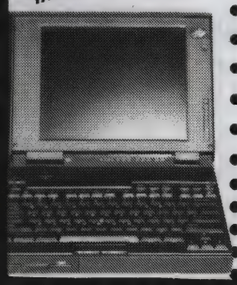
48 meg ram 2.1 Gig 12x CD

36.6 K fax modem Active Color

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Pentium® 75 processor 16/810 meg Active 8x cd

28.8k fax modem **IBM $599**



- Pentium® 75 processor
- 16 meg ram
- 810 meg HDD
- 10.4" Active Color
- 16 bit sound card
- Ext 8x cd rom
- 1.44 3 1/2 Floppy
- Eraserhead & pcmcia slot #3
- Serial, Parallel, Vga ports
- 28.8 fax modem
- refurbished

Pentium®100 Processor 16/1.3gig 6x cd

28.8k fax modem **Dell $699**



- Pentium®100 processor
- 16 MEG RAM
- 1.3 Gig HDD
- 11.3" Dual Scan
- 6x CD 16 bit sound
- 1.44 31/2" Floppy
- mouse & Pcmcia #3
- Serial ,Parallel,Ps/2,VGA
- Battery, AC adapter
- 28.8k fax modem
- factory serviced

Pentium®120 processor 24/1.3 gigg 6x Active

28.8k fax modem **Compaq $699**



- Pentium®120 Processor
- 24 MEG 1.3 gig hdd
- Active Color
- 6x CD 16 bit Sound
- 1.44 3 1/2" floppy
- Mouse & pcmcia #3
- Serial ,Parallel,Vga Ps/2, ports
- Battery & Adapter
- Free 28.8 fax modem
- refurbished

Pentium®133 processor 40/1.3 gig Active 10x

36.6k fax modem **Dell $899**

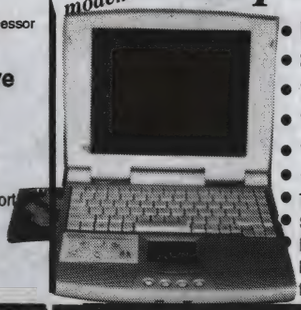


- Pentium®133 Processor
- 40 Meg Ram
- 1.3 gig Hard Drive
- 12.1" Active Color
- 10x CD 16 bit sound
- mouse, 1.44 3 1/2" floppy
- 16 bit sound Pcmcia #3
- Serial Parallel Vga ps/2 Port
- Batttery & AC Adapter
- 33.6 fax modem

factory serviced

Pentium®133 processor 32/1.0 gig 10x Color

36.6k fax modem **Compaq $799**



- Pentium®133 processor
- 32 meg ram 1.0 gig hdd
- 12.1" Dual Scan
- 10x cd rom
- 16 bit sound
- 1.44 floppy
- Touchpad & pcmcia slot
- Serial ,Parallel,VGA,Ps/2 ports
- Battery & AC adapter

Built in 33.6 fax modem

factory serviced

Pentium® 120 processor 24/1.0 gig Active 6x cd

28.8k fax modem **IBM $799**

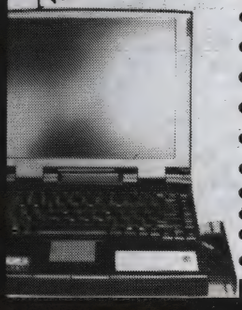


- Pentium®120 processor
- 24 MEG 1.0 gig hdd
- 11.3" Active Color
- 16 bit sound
- 4x cd rom
- 1.44 3 1/2" Floppy
- Eraserhead mouse, pcmcia slot
- Serial Parallel Vga Ps/2 Ports
- Battery & ac adapter
- 28.8 fax modem

refurbished

Pentium®133 16/2.1 gig Active 10xCD

NEW **Everex $799** 36.6k fax modem

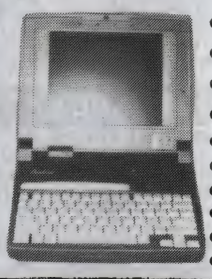


- Pentium® 133 processor
- 16 meg ram
- 2.1 gig Hdd
- 11.3" Active Color
- 10x cd rom
- 16 bit sound
- 1.44 3 1/2" floppy
- pcmcia slot
- Serial, parallel, Vga ports
- free 36.6 fax modem

NEW

486DX4/100 16/720 Color

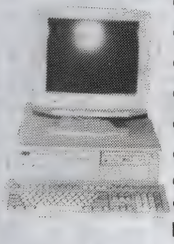
14.4k fax modem **Compaq $399**



- 486DX4/100
- 16 meg ram
- 720 meg Hard Drive
- Dual Scan Color
- 1.44 3 1/2" floppy
- Trackball
- Pcmcia slot #3
- battery & adapter
- 14.4 fax modem
- refurbished

K6-233 16/1.0 gig 24xcd 56k fax

NEW **Tri-Gem $399** 56.6k fax modem



- Micro desktop
- K6-233 Processor
- 16 meg ram
- 1.0 Gig Hard Drive
- 24x cd & Sound
- 56k fax modem
- 1.44 3 1/2" floppy
- Keyboard & Mouse

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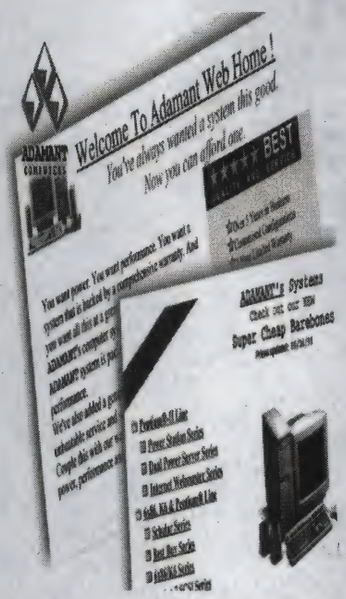
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- 56K Data/Fax/Voice Modem
- CD-RW Yamaha 4x2x6x Drive
- Intel,10/100BASE-T, LAN Card
- 32x SCSI CD-ROM Drive
- 3.5" LS120 1.44/120MB SuperDisk
- 15" 1024x768 .28 SVGA Monitor
- 104 Key Keyboard, Mouse
- Windows NT-4.0 Station on CD
- 3 Years Parts, Lifetime Labor Warranty

Pentium® II 400MHz	$2299
Pentium® II 450MHz	$2399
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Intel® Celeron™ 400MHz	$1799
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- 104 Key Win-95 Keyboard
- Stereo Speakers, Mouse
- Microsoft Windows-98 on CD
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- 3 Years Parts, Lifetime Labor Warranty

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Intel® Celeron™ 366MHz	$1439
Intel® Celeron™ 400MHz	$1479
Pentium® II 350/400MHz	$1499/1639
Pentium® II 450/500MHz	$1739/1999

BEST OF BREED

GET THE MOST OF YOUR SYSTEM

AS LOW AS **$1349**

- 350MHz AMD K6-2 3D Processor
- DFI BV3+, Super-7 Motherboard
- 1MB L2 Pipeline Burst Cache
- 64MB PC100 SDRAM Memory
- 10,2GB Western Digital UIDE HDD
- ATI Xpert-98 8MB 3D Video Card
- 56K Data/Fax/Voice Modem
- PC-DVD 5x Generation
- 3.5" LS120 1.44/120MB SuperDisk
- Sound Blaster 128 PCI Sound Card
- 17" 1280x1024 SVGA Monitor
- 104 Key Win-95 Keyboard
- Stereo Speakers, 3 button Mouse
- Microsoft Windows-98 on CD
- FREE NEC Color Printer
- 3 Years Parts, Lifetime Labor Warranty

Cyrix M-II 333+	$1279
Cyrix M-II 350+	$1329
AMD K6-2 3D 350MHz	$1349
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- 56K Data/Fax/Voice Modem
- 40x CDROM Drive
- 3.5" 1.44MB Floppy Drive
- Sound Pro 3D PCI Sound Card
- 15" 1280x1024 SVGA Monitor
- 104 Key Win-95 Keyboard
- Stereo Speakers, 3 button Mouse
- Microsoft Windows-98 on CD
- 3 Years Parts, Lifetime Labor Warranty

Intel® Celeron™ 333MHz	$739
Intel® Celeron™ 366MHz	$769
Intel® Celeron™ 400MHz	$799
Pentium® II 350MHz	$849
Pentium® II 400/450MHz	$979/1079

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- 32MB PC100 SDRAM Memory
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- SIS-63253D, 4MB, Video Accelerator
- 56K Data/Fax/Voice Modem
- 40x CD-ROM Drive
- 3.5" 1.44 MB Floppy Drive
- Sound Pro 3D PCI Sound Card
- 15" 1024x758 .28 SVGA Monitor
- 104 Key Win-95 Keyboard
- Stereo Speakers, 3 button Mouse
- Microsoft Windows-98 on CD
- 3 Years Parts, Lifetime Labor Warranty

Cyrix M-II 333+	$699
AMD K6-2 3D 333MHz	$739
AMD K6-2 3D 350MHz	$759
AMD K6-2 3D 400MHz	$799
AMD K6-2 3D 450MHz	$899

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• 10.2Gb to 13.1Gb HDD	$59
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• 17" to 19" Monitor	$189
• 19" to 21" Monitor	$349
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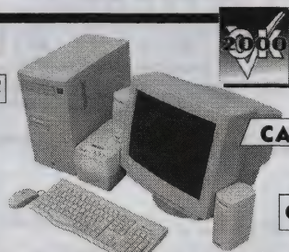
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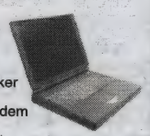
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56K V.90 Data/Fax/Voice Modem
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2-PCMCIA Slots, 1-IRDA Port
2-USB Ports, 1-SVGA Port, TV Output
1-Serial Port, 1-Printer Port
PS/2 Mouse and Keyboard Connector
Windows-98 Operation System on CD
1 Year Parts/Labor Warranty

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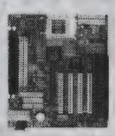
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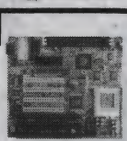
OZZO Super-7 ..... $59



ALI Aladdin-V Chipset,100MHz Bus Speed, 4-PCI, 2-ISA, 1-AGP Slots, 512K Cache, 2-72 pin, 2-168 pin Memory Slots, Award PnP BIOS, 2-USB Ports, Built-in Ultra IDE and I/O Controller

Cyrix M-II 300+ $109
Cyrix M-II 333+ $119
AMD K6-2 3D 333MHz $139
AMD K6-2 3D 350MHz $169
AMD K6-2 3D 380MHz $199

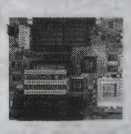
DFI P5BV3+ $73



VIA Apollo MVP3 Chipset, 100MHz Bus Speed, 4-PCI, 3-ISA, 1-AGP Slots, 1MB Cache, 3-168 pin Memory slots, AWARD PnP BIOS, 2-USB Ports, Build-in Ultra IDE and I/O Controller.

Cyrix M-II 300+ $119
Cyrix M-II 333+ $129
Cyrix M-II 350+ $179
AMD K6-2 3D 333MHz $159
AMD K6-2 3D 350MHz $189
AMD K6-2 3D 400MHz $239

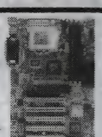
FIC 503+ $77



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Cyrix M-II 333+ $129
Cyrix M-II 350+ $179
AMD K6-2 3D 333MHz $159
AMD K6-2 3D 350MHz $189
AMD K6-2 3D 400MHz $239

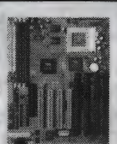
ASUS P5-A $89



ALI Aladdin-V Chipset, 100MHz Bus Speed, 5-PCI, 2-ISA, 1-AGP Slots,512K Cache,3-68 pin Memory Slots, Award PnP BIOS, 2-USB Ports, Built-in Ultra IDE and I/O Controller, ATX Form Factor

Cyrix M-II 300+ $139
Cyrix M-II 333+ $149
Cyrix M-II 350+ $199
AMD K6-2 3D 333 MHz $179
AMD K6-2 3D 333 MHz $199
AMD K6-2 3D 333 MHz $249

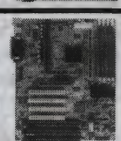
TYAN S1590s $95



VIA Apollo MVP3 Chipset, 100MHz Bus Speed, 4-PCI, 4-ISA, 1-AGP Slots, IMB Cache, 2-72pin, 3-168 pin Memory slots, Award PnP BIOS, 2-USB Ports, Build-in Ultra IDE and I/O Controller.

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Cyrix M-II 333+ $159
Cyrix M-II 350+ $209
AMD K6-2 3D 333MHz $189
AMD K6-2 3D 350MHz $209
AMD K6-2 3D 400MHz $259

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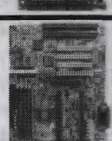
ABIT AB-BH6 ..... $105



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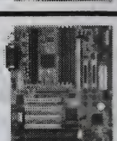
ASUS P2B $135



Intel 440BX Chipset, 100MHz Bus Speed, 4-PCI, 3-ISA, 1-AGP Slots, 3-168 pin Memory Slots, Award PnP BIOS, 2-USB Ports, Build-in Ultra IDE and I/O Controller, ATX Form Factor

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Pentium® II 350MHz .. $349
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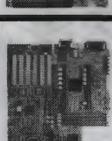
IWILL BS100 ..... $295



Intel 440BX Chipset, 100MHz Bus Speed,Built-in Adaptec 3940 Dual UW SCSI Port, 4-PCI, 3-ISA, 1-AGP Slots,1-RAID Port, 4-168 pin Memory Slots, 2-USB Ports, Award PnP BIOS, Built-in Ultra IDE, I/O Controller, ATX Form Factor

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- 17" .28dpi (16" viewable) Monitor
- 56k PCI v.90 Fax/Data Modem
- 32x Toshiba CD-Rom Drive
- Creative Sound Blaster 128 PCI
- 100 Watt Amplified Speakers
- ATX Mid-Tower Case w/ 9 bays
- 105 key keyboard, Logitech Mouse
- Windows '98, Entertainment CD pack

Intel Celeron 300 128k $1115
Intel Celeron 333 128k $1135
Intel Celeron 366 128k $1195
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Intel Pentium II 350 .....$1265
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- ISA 16-bit Yamaha Sound Card
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- Mid-Tower Case with 7 bays
- 105 key keyboard, Logitech mouse
- Windows '98, Entertainment CD pack
- Corel Word Perfect Suite 8

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- 56k PCI V.90 Fax/Data modem
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- Mid-Tower Case with 9 bays
- 105 key keyboard, Logitech mouse
- Windows '98, Entertainment CD pack
- Corel Word Perfect Suite 8

AMD K6-3 300 3D $1059
AMD K6-2 333 3D $1135
AMD K6-2 350 3D $1099
AMD K6-2 400 3D $1119

E-Value 99 $839

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- AGP 4mb Cirrus Logic Video Card
- 15" .28 dpi (13.9" Viewable) Monitor
- 56k PCI V.90 Fax/Data modem
- 32x Toshiba CD-Rom, Microphone
- ISA 16-bit Yamaha Sound Card
- 100 Watt Amplified Speakers
- Mid-Tower Case with 9 bays
- 105 key keyboard, Logitech mouse
- Windows '98, Entertainment CD pack
- Corel Word Perfect Suite8

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- Creative Labs Sound Blaster Live Value
- Sub Woofer w/ satellite speakers
- Mid-Tower Case with 14 bays
- 105 key keyboard, Logitech mouse
- Windows '98, Entertainment CD pack
- Corel Word Perfect Suite 8

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Intel Pentium II 400 .....$1679
Intel Pentium II 450 .....$1869

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- 17" .28 dpi (16" Viewable) Monitor
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- 3rd Gen. DVD w/Decoder, Microphone
- Creative Labs Sound Blaster 128 PCI
- Sub Woofer w/ satellite speakers
- Mid-Tower Case with 9 bays
- 105 key keyboard, Logitech mouse
- Windows '98, Entertainment CD pack
- Corel Word Perfect Suite 8

AMD K6-3 300 3D $1219
AMD K6-2 333 3D $1225
AMD K6-2 350 3D $1245
AMD K6-2 400 3D $1299

E-Business DVD $1339

- AMD K6-2 266 3D Processor
- 128mb SDRAM PC-100, 1.44mb floppy drive
- 10gb Maxtor UIDE Hard Drive
- AGP 16mb Creative Banshee Video Card
- 17" .28 dpi (16" Viewable) Monitor
- 56k PCI V.90 Fax/Data modem
- 3rd Generation Toshiba DVD, Microphone
- Creative Labs Sound Blaster Live Value
- Sub Woofer w/ satellite speakers
- Mid-Tower Case with 7 bays
- 105 key keyboard, Logitech mouse
- Windows '98, Entertainment CD pack
- Corel Word Perfect Suite 8

AMD K6-3 300 3D $1365
AMD K6-2 333 3D $1369
AMD K6-2 350 3D $1389
AMD K6-2 400 3D $1449

E-Value 2000 $965

- Intel Celeron 300A w/128k cache
- 64mb SDRAM PC-100, 1.44mb floppy drive
- 6.4gb Quantum UIDE Hard Drive
- AGP 8mb STB Velocity 128 Video Card
- 17" .28 dpi (16" Viewable) Monitor
- 56k PCI V.90 Fax/Data modem
- 32x Toshiba CD-Rom, Microphone
- PCI 32-bit Yamaha 724 Sound Card
- 100 Watt Amplified Speakers
- Mid-Tower Case with 7 bays
- 105 key keyboard, Logitech mouse
- Windows '98, Entertainment CD pack
- Corel Word Perfect Suite 8

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- 56k PCI V.90 Fax/Data modem
- 3rd Generation Toshiba DVD Drive
- Creative Labs Sound Blaster Live Value
- Sub Woofer w/ satellite speakers
- Full-Tower Case with 14 bays
- 105 key keyboard, Logitech mouse
- Windows '98, Entertainment CD pack
- Corel Word Perfect Suite 8

Intel Pentium II 350 .....$1799
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Celeron 370	$175	$189	$225	$275

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72 Pin SIMMS

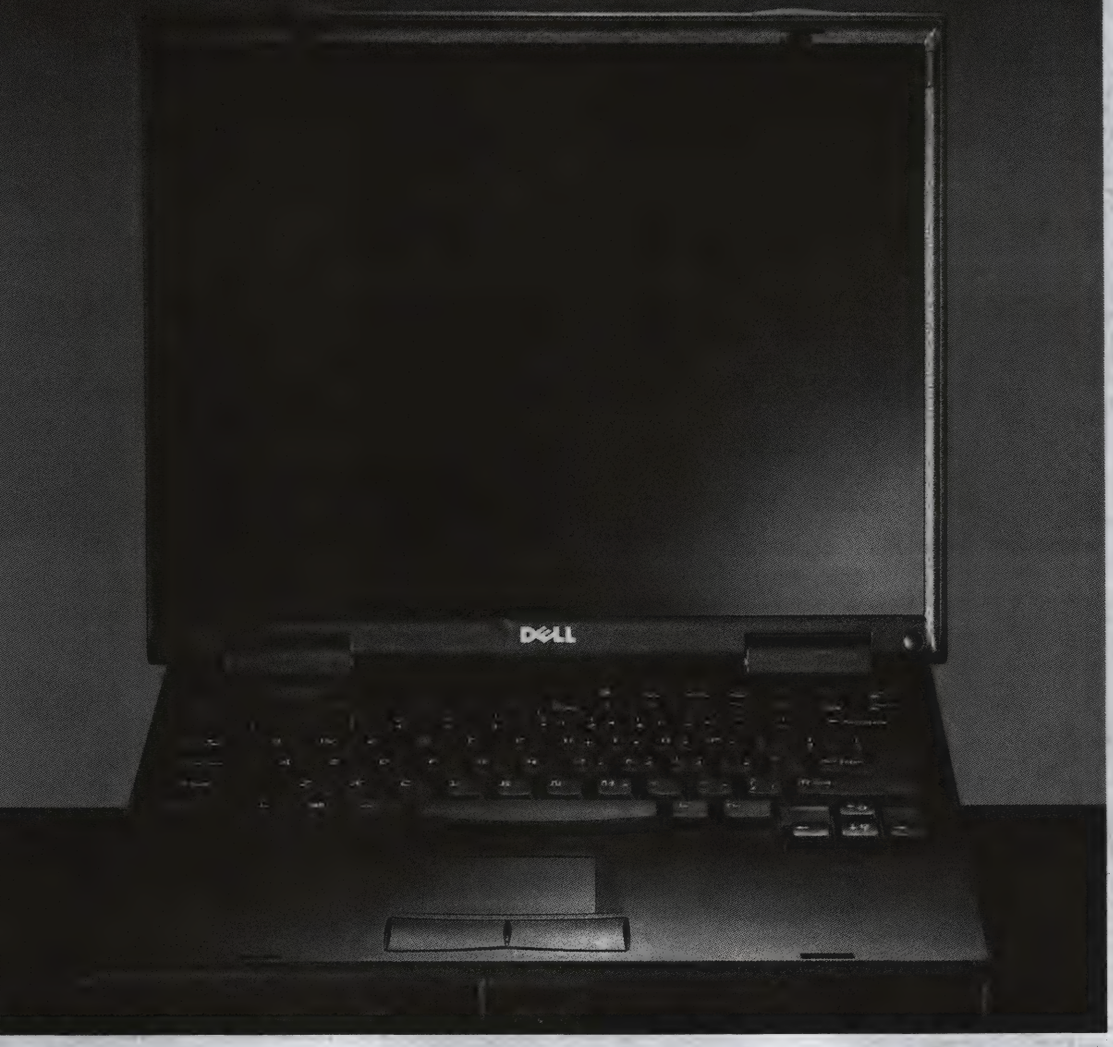
16mb	4x32	60ns	EDO	$37
16mb	4x36	60ns	Parity	$47
32mb	8x32	60ns	FPM	$81
32mb	8x32	60ns	EDO	$72
32mb	8x36	60ns	Parity	$92

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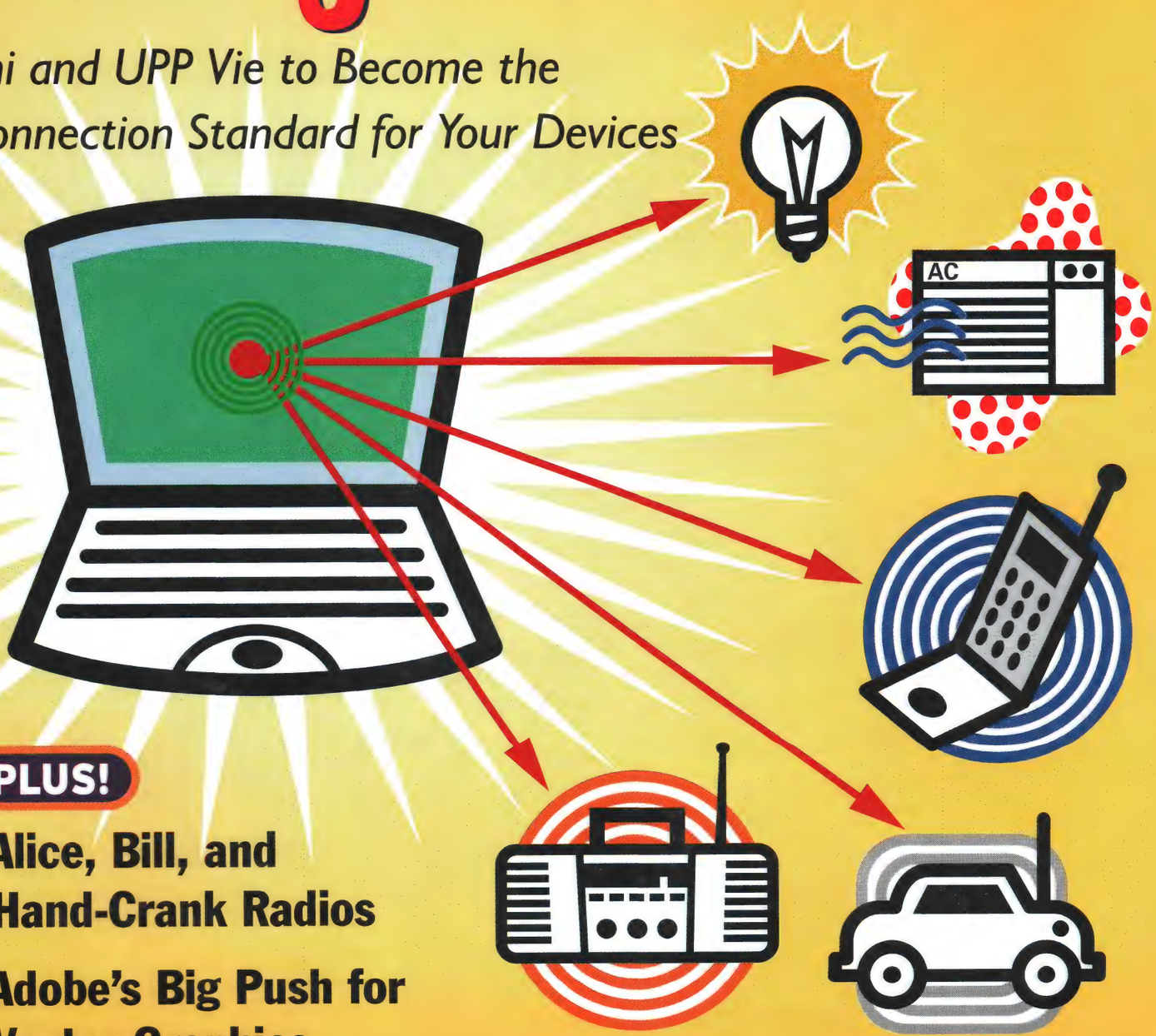
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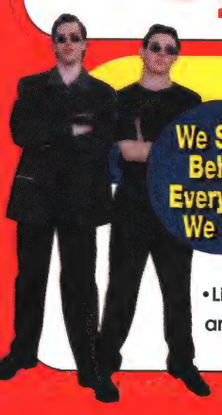
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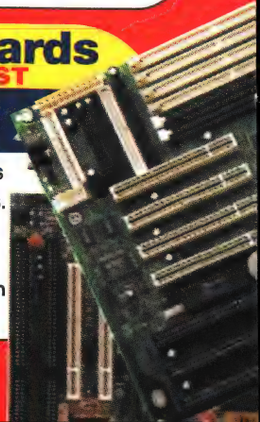
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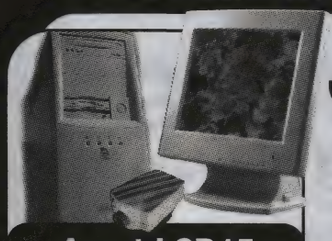
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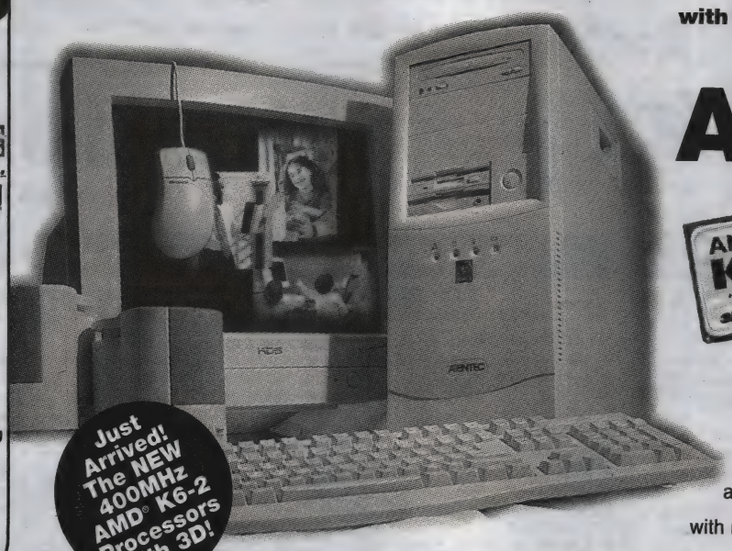
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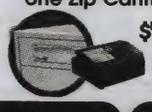
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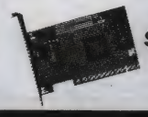
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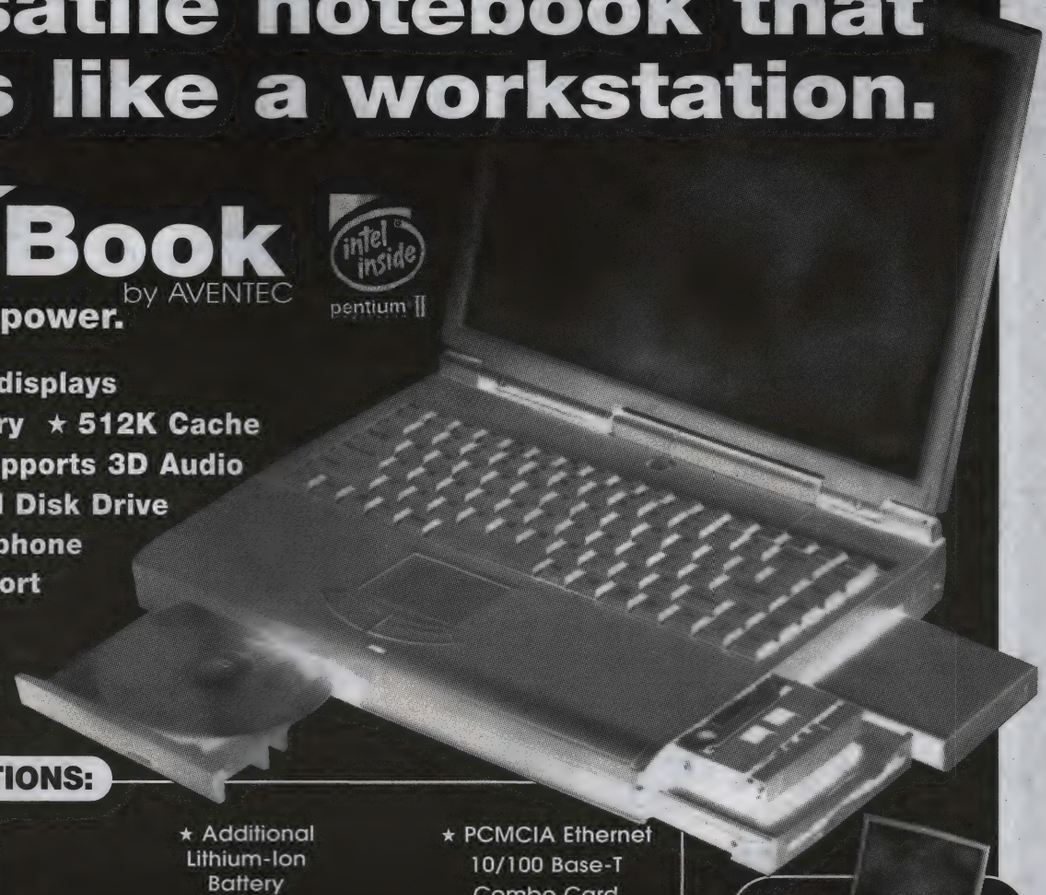
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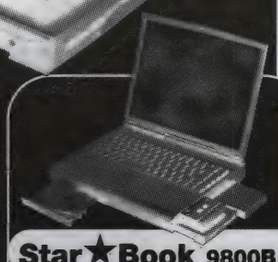
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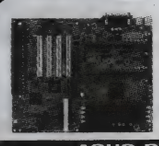


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DUAL ASUS $299 — Intel 440BX DP Chipset

ASUS P2B-D

Dual Pentium II, 100/66MHz, Intel 440 BX DP AGP Chipset, 1AGP/4PCI/2ISA, 4DIMM up to 512MB SDRAM, ATX Form Factor. (also available P2B-DS w/Ultra SCSI Wide...$439)

- With No CPU.....$299
- With Intel® Pentium™ II Processor
- PII 350Mhz MMX CPU.....$529
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- PII 450Mhz MMX CPU.....$889
- With Dual Intel® Pentium™ II Processors
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DUAL A-TREND $239 — Intel 440BX DP Chipset

A-TREND ATC-6260

Dual Pentium II, 10/66MHz, Intel 440 BX DP AGP Chipset, 1AGP/4PCI/2ISA, 4DIMM up to 512MB SDRAM, ATX Form Factor, Ultra-Wide SCSI Onboard.

- With No CPU.....$239
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- PII 350Mhz MMX CPU.....$499
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- PII 450Mhz MMX CPU.....$839
- With Dual Intel® Pentium™ II Processors
- PII 350Mhz MMX CPU x2.....$709
- PII 400Mhz MMX CPU x2.....$995
- PII 450Mhz MMX CPU x2.....$1399



DUAL Tekram $199 — Intel 440BX DP Chipset

TEKRAM P6B40D-A5

Dual Pentium II, 10/66MHz, Intel 440 BX DP AGP Chipset, 1AGP/4PCI/2ISA, 4DIMM up to 512MB SDRAM, ATX Form Factor.

- With No CPU.....$199
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- PII 350Mhz MMX CPU.....$415
- PII 400Mhz MMX CPU.....$555
- PII 450Mhz MMX CPU.....$775
- With Dual Intel® Pentium™ II Processors
- PII 350Mhz MMX CPU x2.....$649
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- PII 450Mhz MMX CPU x2.....$1369

BX Chipset Motherboards

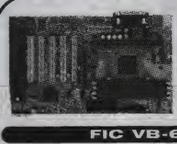


ABIT $125 — Intel 440BX Chipset

ABIT BM6

Socket 370, Jumperless CPU settings w/Soft Menu, 100Mhz, Intel 440 BX AGP Chipset, 5PCI/2ISA/1AGP, 3 SDRAM Sockets, Award Bios, ATX Form Factor, PS-2, USB.

- With No CPU.....$125
- With Intel® Celeron PPGA Processor
- Celeron 333Mhz w/128K.....$225
- Celeron 366Mhz w/128K.....$265
- Celeron 400Mhz w/128K.....$295



FIC $99 — Intel 440BX Chipset

FIC VB-601

PII, 100Mhz, Intel 440 BX AGP Chipset, 5PCI/2ISA/1AGP, 4 SDRAM, ATX Form Factor, 2USB, PS-2.

- With No CPU.....$99
- With Intel® Pentium™ II Processor
- Celeron 366Mhz w/128K.....$229
- PII 350Mhz MMX CPU.....$339
- PII 400Mhz MMX CPU.....$469
- PII 450Mhz MMX CPU.....$569

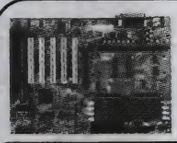


ASUS $129 — Intel 440BX Chipset

ASUS P2B

PII, 100Mhz, Intel 440 BX AGP Chipset, 4PCI/3ISA/1AGP, 3 SDRAM, ATX Form Factor, 2USB, PS-2.

- With No CPU.....$129
- With Intel® Pentium™ II Processor
- Celeron 366Mhz w/128K.....$279
- PII 350Mhz MMX CPU.....$375
- PII 400Mhz MMX CPU.....$515
- PII 450Mhz MMX CPU.....$615



ABIT $115 — Intel 440BX Chipset

ABIT BX6 Rev. 2.0

PII, Jumperless CPU settings w/Soft Menu, 100Mhz, Intel 440 BX AGP Chipset, 5PCI/2ISA/1AGP, 4 SDRAM Sockets, Award Bios, ATX Form Factor, PS-2.

- With No CPU.....$115
- With Intel® Pentium™ II Processor
- Celeron 366Mhz w/128K.....$269
- PII 350Mhz MMX CPU.....$355
- PII 400Mhz MMX CPU.....$495
- PII 450Mhz MMX CPU.....$595
- With Intel® Pentium™ III Processor
- PIII 450Mhz MMX CPU.....$695
- PIII 500Mhz MMX CPU.....$895

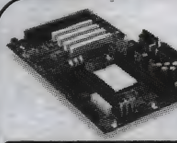


ABIT $99 — Intel 440BX Chipset

ABIT BH6

PII, Jumperless CPU settings w/Soft Menu, 100Mhz, Intel 440 BX AGP Chipset, 5PCI/2ISA/1AGP, 3 SDRAM Sockets, Award Bios, ATX Form Factor, PS-2.

- With No CPU.....$99
- With Intel® Pentium™ II Processor
- Celeron 366Mhz w/128K.....$259
- PII 350Mhz MMX CPU.....$345
- PII 400Mhz MMX CPU.....$485
- PII 450Mhz MMX CPU.....$585
- With Intel® Pentium™ III Processor
- PIII 450Mhz MMX CPU.....$685
- PIII 500Mhz MMX CPU.....$885



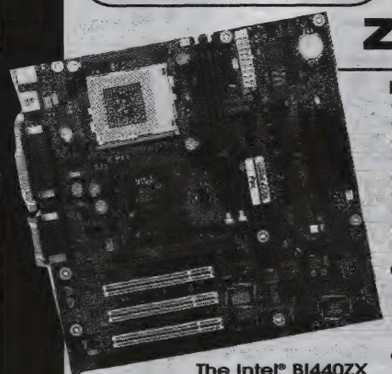
intel. $129 — Intel 440BX Chipset

INTEL SE440BX-2

PII, Intel 440 BX PCI Chipset, 4PCI/2ISA/1AGP, 3 SDRAM Sockets, Award Bios, ATX Form Factor, PS-2. (also available w/Yamaha PCI audio.....$149)

- With No CPU.....$129
- With Intel® Pentium™ II Processor
- Celeron 366Mhz w/128K.....$279
- PII 350Mhz MMX CPU.....$365
- PII 400Mhz MMX CPU.....$505
- PII 450Mhz MMX CPU.....$605
- With Intel® Pentium™ III Processor
- PIII 450Mhz MMX CPU.....$705
- PIII 500Mhz MMX CPU.....$905

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- Intel® 440ZX AGPset
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Intel BI440ZX

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- Celeron 366Mhz w/128K.....$249
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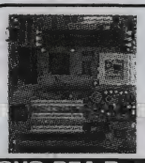


ASUS $89 — ALi Aladdin Chipset

ASUS P5A without Audio

Socket 7 with AGP, 100MHz, 5PCI/2ISA/1AGP, 3DIMM, 512K, USB, PS-2, ATX Style.
(also available with audio.....$105)

With No CPU.....$89
With AMD K6-2 with 3D Processor
AMD K6-2/333 w/3D.....$179
AMD K6-2/350 w/3D.....$199
AMD K6-2/400 w/3D.....$259

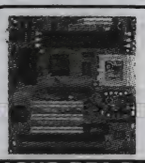


ASUS $85 — ALi Aladdin Chipset

ASUS P5A-B without Audio

Socket 7 with AGP, 100MHz, 3PCI/2ISA/1AGP, 3DIMM, 512K, USB, PS-2, AT Style.

With No CPU.....$85
With AMD K6-2 with 3D Processor
AMD K6-2/333 w/3D.....$175
AMD K6-2/350 w/3D.....$195
AMD K6-2/400 w/3D.....$255



ASUS $105 — ALi Aladdin Chipset

ASUS P5A-B with Audio

Socket 7 with AGP, 100MHz, 3PCI/2ISA/1AGP, 3DIMM, 512K, USB, PS-2, AT Style, PCI Sound Built-In.

With No CPU.....$105
With AMD K6-2 with 3D Processor
AMD K6-2/333 w/3D.....$195
AMD K6-2/350 w/3D.....$215
AMD K6-2/400 w/3D.....$275

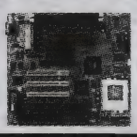


FIC $75 — VIA APOLLO VP3

FIC PA-2013

Socket 7, 100Mhz, VIA Apollo VP3 Chipset, 4PCI/2ISA/1AGP, 3 SDRAM, up to 350MHz ATX style, 1MB Cache.
(also available with 2MB of Cache.....$99)

With No CPU.....$75
With AMD K6-2 with 3D Processor
AMD K6-2/333 w/3D.....$169
AMD K6-2/350 w/3D.....$199
AMD K6-2/400 w/3D.....$259

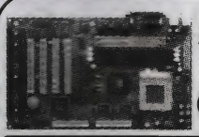


FIC $69 — VIA APOLLO VP3

FIC VA-503+

Socket 7, 100Mhz, VIA Apollo VP3 Chipset, 3PCI/3ISA/1AGP, 2 SDRAM, 4-72 pin, up to 350MHz, AT style, 1MB Cache.
(also available with 2MB of Cache.....$95)

With No CPU.....$69
With AMD K6-2 with 3D Processor
AMD K6-2/333 w/3D.....$165
AMD K6-2/350 w/3D.....$195
AMD K6-2/400 w/3D.....$255

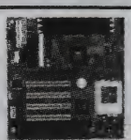


A-TREND $65 — Apollo VP3 Chipset

A-TREND ATC-5220

Socket 7 with AGP, 100MHz, 4PCI/2ISA/1AGP, 3DIMM, 2SIMM, 512K, USB, PS-2, ATX Style.

With No CPU.....$65
With AMD K6-2 with 3D Processor
AMD K6-2/333 w/3D.....$159
AMD K6-2/350 w/3D.....$189
AMD K6-2/400 w/3D.....$249



A-TREND $65 — Apollo VP3 Chipset

A-TREND ATC-5200

Socket 7 with AGP, 100MHz, 4PCI/2ISA/1AGP, 3DIMM, 512K, USB, PS-2, AT Style.

With No CPU.....$65
With AMD K6-2 with 3D Processor
AMD K6-2/333 w/3D.....$159
AMD K6-2/350 w/3D.....$189
AMD K6-2/400 w/3D.....$249



TYAN $85 — Apollo VP3 Chipset

TYAN S1590S

Socket 7 with AGP, 100MHz, 4PCI/4ISA/1AGP, 3DIMM, 1MB, USB, PS-2, AT Style.

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AMD K6-2/400 w/3D.....$269



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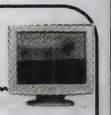
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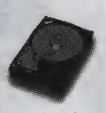
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Zip Disk Media.....$10.99

Jaz Disk Media.....$85

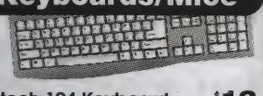
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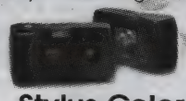
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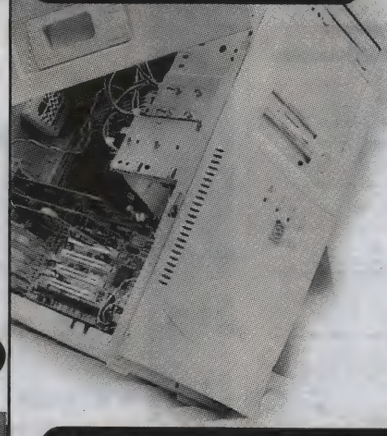
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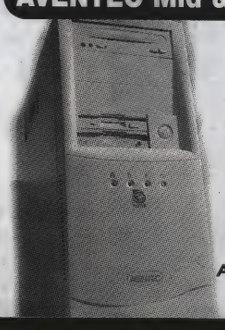
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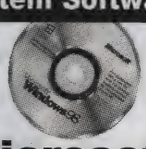
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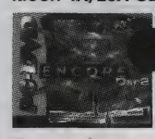
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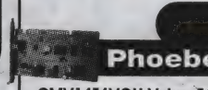
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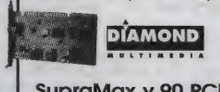


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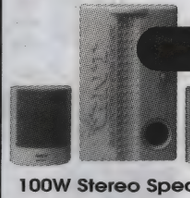
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The Hard Edge

Fooling Around on the Celeron; the Word on God; and Hand-Cranked PCs for the New Millennium

by Alice Hill and Bill O'Brien

The gunport, er, mail slot on the brass-bound oaken doors guarding the Lab of Doom and Pepsi-Cola slid open, and a small scrap of paper dropped out. As fate would have it, former multimedia maven and current desktop reviews editor Steve Schwartz happened to be walking past as this happened. Instinctively, he reached for the paper, unfolded it, and read what was written there. Then he fainted into a heap on the floor.

Steve had revived by the time Alice arrived, but he was still too shaken to do much more than just pass over the paper with a trembling hand. Alice looked at the multicolored Crayola ramblings and read one quote aloud:

"The Celeron is the best processor that Intel has ever developed. It kicks Pentium II butt from here to there and back again. It's faster than a speeding bullet, more powerful than a locomotive, and not even kryptonite can do it harm. You should all go out and buy a Celeron chip—no, buy two—because they're so wonderful!"

There was a general gasp from those present. But Alice simply raised her hand and frowned slightly.

"Get a hold of yourself and check the calendar," she said in a commanding voice. "It must be time for the April edition of 'The Hard Edge'...you fools!"

A COUPLE OF CRANKS

Long time "Hard Edge" readers know that Alice often overloads on digital life and finds herself in need of a good analog fix. That's why she keeps a pencil and a plastic ruler on her desk, and why she's always on the lookout for products that proudly thumb their noses at our various electrical dependencies.

You could call her zany, but as Alice likes to point out, she's merely shockingly ahead of her time. Case in point: hand-crank radios. When BayGen unveiled the Freeplay, a crankable radio that offers smooth battery-free power for up to 30 minutes per 30 seconds of cranking, Alice was fascinated with the device. Here was an excellent source of power for little effort—

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MONDO COOL

MONDO EPITOME

Although normally we'd reserve this for the Mailbag, we thought to give it a more prominent treatment. We received this letter from reader Scott Feld (who, we should mention, did the appropriate amount of kissing up before diving into his problem).

He wrote, "I have a friend who has a Hewlett-Packard ScanJet 4p. I recently went to HP's Web site to see about getting updated drivers for Windows 98, and to my shock, the company is charging $20 for an upgraded driver! Or for $100, I can get another set of 'special-edition' or 'limited-edition' software to go with my already more-expensive-than-average scanner.

"Get this: HP even talks about its new software requiring the user to buy a new SCSI card! What the heck? Most people were a little anxious about spending $90 on Windows 98! I bet that they would never even consider upgrading if they knew they would have to spend another $120 to $200 on their scanners just to have the correct, fully functional drivers and interface cards so their hardware will work with Billy's latest creation!

"I don't think I have anything else to gripe about. I'm just hoping you might give HP a well-deserved Mondo raspberry or something."

Well, always responsive to our readers, we think Scott brings up a good point. We think that the driver-plus-software package HP is offering contains enough value-added material to warrant some additional payment. Whether that value should be $100 depends on how much you want a 4p to work like a 6100 series scanner (HP's claim).

The $20 for the Windows 98 driver is a tougher issue. HP did have to develop the driver, and that does cost money. Ordinarily, that cost would be bundled into the price of the product when you buy it. (You know, you get

(continued on page 334)

ILLUSTRATION BY DAVID FLAHERTY

perfect for earthquake-prone California and a great counterpoint to digital madness.

But then she got to thinking. With all the hysteria mounting daily over the Y2K crisis, a hand-cranked radio might not be a bad little product to sell. And sure enough, when she checked back at BayGen, the little radio with the cool cranking technology was positioned as the ultimate be-prepared object. The company had also wisely upped the price of the radio to $99.

Better yet, BayGen had started adding new products to its lineup, including a light you can attach to the radio, solar panels, and a shortwave model, plus a nice stand-alone hand-cranked lantern. Alice predicts that hand-crank radios and other devices will make a bizarre premillennial comeback. Call it the final peak of analog culture just before it passes away forever. That, or the one thing you just might want to have on hand in case, well, in case you-know-what really does happen. Check out this aptly named site for a complete look at these products: *www.prepare-now.com*.

FROM THE SPIRITUAL WORLD

A leading orthodox rabbi announced earlier this year that the word "God" may be erased from a computer's screen because in his opinion, the screen was composed of pixels and not actual letters. According to Jewish law, the word "God" ("elohim" in Hebrew) or any of its variations in other languages cannot be erased and must instead be ritually buried or stored. When asked if erasing the word from a computer would be subject to a similar treatment, the ruling in favor of erasing was made because the word "God" was really an assemblage of ones and zeros in this case. Bill promptly planned a rebuttal, because the ritual burial of Celeron PCs displaying the word "God" on the their screens seemed like such a great opportunity to him!

CREDIBILITY

Bill frequents a free forum for pickup-truck owners. It contains some editorial content as well as links to vendors that sell truck stuff. But the highlight of the place is the forum itself. It's an exchange of ideas, questions, and general opinion among a diverse group of truck owners.

A few months ago, someone posted this message:

"I understand that a group of college students is running this site, and I appreciate it, but they

Alice predicts that hand-crank radios and other devices will make a bizarre premillennial comeback. Call it the final peak of analog culture just before it passes away forever.

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Mondo Cool

(continued from page 333)

the drivers for free <wink, wink>.) It would be pathetic if you bought a piece of hardware that didn't contain a driver for a current operating system, and the manufacturer wanted you to pay extra for it. Likewise, if the driver didn't work, and you were asked to pay for one that did, that would be outrageous.

When you get to a product that was released prior to an operating system, and then want to upgrade it to work with that new operating system, you enter a strange area of commercial reality.

Odds are pretty good that the new drivers are included with current versions of the product. That's because the development costs of the product have been sufficiently amortized at that point to cover them. But the older equipment doesn't. What you're being asked to do is make up for that fact.

Is it fair? Unfortunately, we have to say yes, within the context of a commercial society. Does it make you feel all warm and fuzzy about the manufacturer? We really doubt it. After all, the company had to develop the driver anyway. So why not just give it to you?

If you really need the driver (and we're not talking about a whole bunch of extraneous software as well), possibly the best way to handle it is to bite the bullet and buy it. Do, however, send along a polite note to the manufacturer indicating your displeasure with the policy. (And we do mean a polite note.)

Include one extra little detail: Now that you are aware of the company's attitude toward loyal customers of its product, you'll have to reconsider the source of your next similar purchase.

That is the *only* thing that matters. Money drives corporate attitudes—no matter what company it might be. Give a company your money, and the status quo will continue. Stop giving it, and the company will scurry around trying to figure out why. (People in corporations can be dumb, too.) April is only one month out of 12. ▼

claimed about a month ago that the site would be updated within a week, and nothing yet. Another day, and I will likely stop visiting. I appreciate the work, but along with it comes the maintenance. They are being sponsored; otherwise, why would these kids waste their money hiring companies to shoot the photography, and the like?"

So let's see what's going on here. The gentleman is complaining that the site isn't being updated enough to suit his tastes. Okay. Complaints are allowed—but keep in mind that the site is *free* and has a giant forum of ideas that constantly receives new postings. He's also threatening to leave and not come back unless things change. And what? Get a refund of his admission charge?

It's one thing to express your disappointment or your hopes, but getting things in context is also a big part of the package. No one is obligated to give you a free ride. It's important to respect the amount of work and time a project demands, even if it isn't what you'd like it to be. And that's doubly true if your only contribution is your presence there.

Money drives corporate attitudes—no matter what company it might be. Give a company your money, and the status quo will continue.

Unfortunately, the Internet trivializes those labors. Big deal. Click, and you're somewhere else, and who cares how much time went into any one site? Just move on to the next one at the speed of your connection. It's a shame. It's making us unappreciative and often obnoxious.

By the way, the focus of the never-changing editorial content on that site was called "The Endless Summer." So just how long should an endless summer last?

DON'T BE A FOOL

April is a month for foolishness, so why not let down your hair and show Alice and Bill how bizarre and foolish you can be? After all, they show you how foolish they are month in and month out, so why not go ahead and repay the favor in kind?

Drop Alice and Bill a line at their Mailbag digs and make them laugh and cry. Go on; you know you want to.

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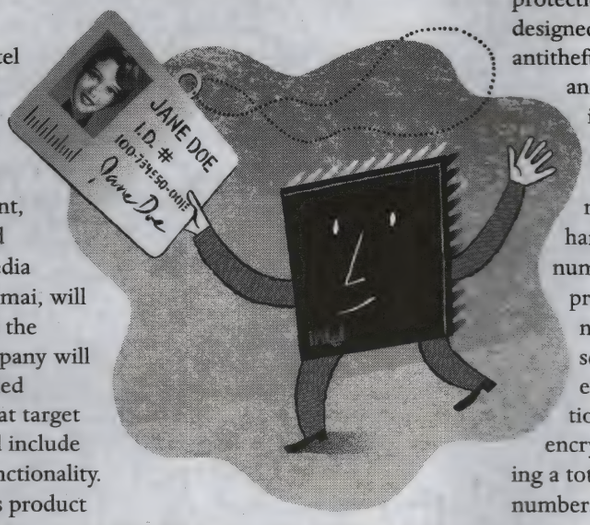
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Intel Embeds Unique IDs

Multimedia chips get a name, and forthcoming chips get embedded IDs and random-number generators.



In late January, Intel Corp. made two key announcements regarding its forthcoming chips. In the first announcement, Intel said its enhanced graphics and multimedia chip, code-named Katmai, will be formally known as the Pentium III. The company will also release chips, called Pentium III Xeons, that target the server market and include enhanced Internet functionality. Going forward, Intel's product line will comprise only Pentium IIIs and Celerons.

In the second announcement, Intel stated its plans to add a new security feature to its Pentium III line: an embedded ID/serial number in each chip. The ID number will more accurately identify the system owner and offer greater protection. The ID chips were designed in an effort to address antitheft and antifraud concerns, and the growing security issues surrounding e-commerce.

Along with the serial number, Intel is adding a hardware-based random-number generator to its processors to provide the most robust encryption security. The number generator works in conjunction with existing software-encryption systems by providing a totally random array of numbers for software-coding algorithms. This should prevent code-breakers from easily identifying patterns.

When a user buys a system, the ID feature is automatically enabled, so that merchants and other authorized parties can verify the user's identity. This identifier will go a long way toward preventing stolen PCs from being sold on the Internet, as those serial numbers will be blacklisted. For Internet business, the IDs can significantly cut down on consumer fraud.

Privacy advocacy groups, however, say this type of feature violates personal privacy, as consumers can be tracked as they move about the Web. Though no one is currently maintaining a database of IDs matched with the users, the concern is that it will only be a matter of time before someone does.

As e-commerce transactions continue to proliferate, the processor-based ID may be a required feature before any transactions can take place.

In response, Intel is offering a software patch to disable the function if a buyer doesn't want it. This is called "opting out." However, as e-commerce transactions continue to proliferate, the processor-based ID may be a required feature before any transactions can take place, making it impossible for users to opt out. The privacy groups consider that the disable feature should be the default when consumers buy a system.

Privacy concerns aside, the move to include more robust security features in PCs is a necessary step for existing in an Internet-centric business world. According to Intel, the serial numbers will initially appear only in the Pentium III processors, but later will be added across the line to Celeron chips. **—Jon Halpin**

A3D 2.0 IS MUSIC TO USERS' EARS

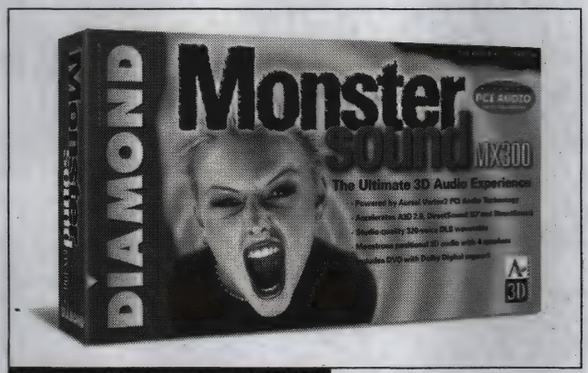
Aureal's new standard improves positional audio performance.

Aureal Semiconductor debuted an improved version of its A3D positional audio technology, based on its Vortex 2 chip set, which promises to vastly improve the way your PC generates sounds.

Positional, or 3-D, audio enables your PC to create an interactive audio environment in which sounds can come from any direction. Version 2.0 of A3D features more 3-D sources, higher sample rates, and a new wave-tracing technology that provides real-time acoustic reflection and occlusion rendering. For example, original A3D systems could render eight simultaneous sound sources, but A3D 2.0 will raise this number to 16. Furthermore, current A3D systems render audio at a 22KHz sample rate. Using the Vortex 2 chip, A3D 2.0 raises the rendering rate to 48KHz, improving overall audio quality.

Perhaps the most notable improvement in A3D 2.0, however, is the incorporation of Wavetracer. This technology, which the company says was codeveloped with NASA, creates a model of the acoustic environment that includes the reflective properties of passive objects. This means sounds can be heard from under a doorway or echoing off the ceiling. With the Vortex 2 chip, A3D 2.0 can account for as many as 64 different 3-D-reflection sources.

A3D 2.0 is fully backward-compatible with A3D, and when used without hardware acceleration, the system will downgrade to the 2-D mode, A2D.



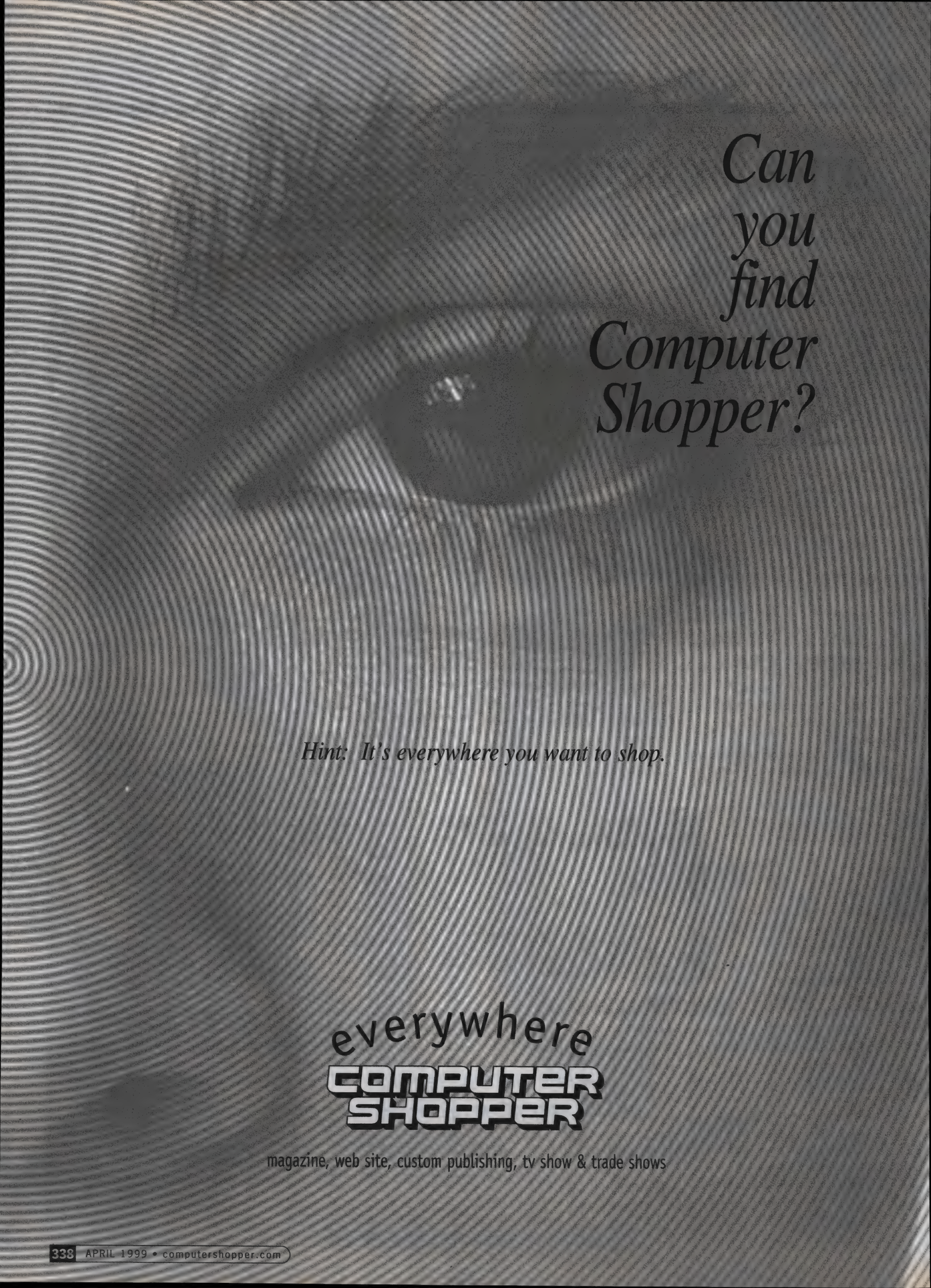
Diamond Monster Sound MX300

Diamond Multimedia Systems released the first Vortex 2-based sound card to hit the market, the Monster Sound MX300, earlier this year. At press time, other sound cards based on the Vortex 2, including the Montego IITM from Voyetra Turtle Beach and the Storm Platinum from Xitel, were in development. **—J.H.**

ACTIVE LINKS

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Creative Connections

Microsoft, Sun, and a host of consumer electronics companies are developing standards to connect all your home electronics. But can they all get along?

by Jon Halpin

Not too long ago, the PC was an island. Sure, you might connect it to a printer or to some other peripheral, but for the most part, it was a self-contained unit. Now a flood of "smart" electronic devices, including PDAs, set-top boxes, VCRs, and even alarm systems, have extended the computing environment into every room in the modern home.

Unfortunately, connecting these devices so they can share their features, information, and resources has remained an elusive goal. The main problem is that most of the devices are not built around a standard method of connection. This leaves them incompatible. Although vendors have recognized the growing importance of smart devices and want to be the first to provide advanced services to consumers, the industry is divided on which standard to pursue.

Sun Microsystems was first on the scene with Jini, a Java-based technology that would let devices easily communicate with one another. Then Microsoft Corp. announced its plans to create a competing Windows-based technology that builds on the company's Plug and Play efforts. Consumer electronics companies, including Matsushita, Philips, and Sony, are also working on a non-PC-oriented standard for connecting digital audio and visual devices.

With so many disparate efforts under way, deciding which products to buy will likely be pretty confusing for average consumers, which could slow adoption of these technologies. But staying abreast of the standards as they evolve can help, as can developing a better understanding of your own needs when it comes to networking your smart devices.

JINI'S TRICKS

Later this year, Sun is expected to announce the first products that support Jini, and the technology has been in public testing since July 1998. Jini lets consumer devices, such as digital cameras and cell phones, connect easily to computer networks. Jini is written in Java, which makes it easier to get devices to work together.

The concept of Jini is based on distributed computing, in which large chunks of computer instructions are divided into smaller pieces. The various machines on the network then process these pieces separately. If this is done successfully, you have shared power, shared knowledge, equal access, expandability, and adaptability. It also diminishes the need for a traditional operating system. Microsoft had to acknowledge and react to this fact with its Universal Plug and Play (UPP) initiative, its alternative to Sun's technology.

The key to Jini is its platform independence and its ability to work over existing networking software and protocols. As an extension of Java code, along with the "federation" of Java Virtual Machines, Jini becomes a universal language for disparate devices.

At the core of Jini's architecture lies a lookup service known as JavaSpace. The lookup service acts as an electronic bulletin board that monitors all the devices attached to the network. The combination of Java's ability to run on different computers and the ability of Jini-enabled devices to send their own software code to the lookup service and receive instructions from other devices is what makes it come together.

Jini will let users connect, power, and control any appliance with an embedded processor, including PDAs, cell phones, TVs, and dishwashers, through the network. Once connected, the device announces itself to the network, indicates what it is there to do, and then carries out its task.

So far, Canon, Epson, Ericsson, Mitsubishi, Quantum, Seagate, Sony, and Toshiba are onboard with Jini.



ILLUSTRATION BY DAVID FLAHERTY

DOWN WITH UPP

At the Consumer Electronics Show (CES) held in January, Microsoft introduced UPP, the next phase of its Plug and Play initiative, which began in 1992. UPP takes the concept of easier PC connections and extends it to include "intelligent" consumer appliances so they can more easily connect as peers and can share resources.

In the keynote speech at CES, Microsoft's UPP project leader Edward Mundie said, "We want to bridge the gap for appliances, products, and computers."

Both Jini and UPP streamline connectivity so that a compliant device, say a PDA, can be plugged into a network and have its features automatically available for use by other devices on the network, like a PC or a cell phone. UPP is Windows-based and is expected to be built into Windows 2000.

UPP defines a common interface that describes devices and services. Like Plug and Play, UPP should deliver automatic detection when a device is plugged into a network; it alleviates the need for complicated setup and configuration. According to Microsoft, UPP extends the discovery and enumeration of devices to include such equipment as network-attached printers, Internet gateways, and consumer electronics items.

(continued on page 342)



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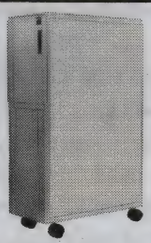
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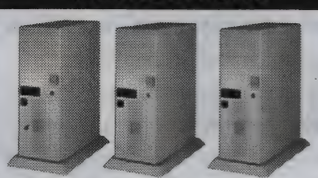
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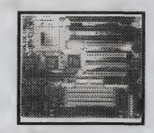
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AMD K6-2-3D 366/380/400MHz.....$219/238/258
AMD K6-2-3D 300/333/350MHz.....$169/184/198
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Cyrix 686 MX 266/300MHz.....$148/158

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Abit Bx6,BX,AGP,P-II,ATX Motherboard
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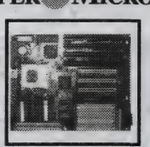


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NEC 17 YR275 17", .27,NI 1280x1024.....$298

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AMD K-6-2-3D 300/350 MHz $218/228
Intel MMX 200/233 MHz.....$209/218
Cyrix 6x86MX 266/300MHz.....$189/198

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Diamond Speed Star 8Mb AGP
Mid Tower ATX 235 Watt P.S.
with CPU
AMD K6-2-3D 366/380/400 MHz
$328/348/368
AMD K6-2-3D Now!! 300/333/350 MHz
$264/284/298

Tyan S1590 100 VIA 1Mb Cache
ATI Charger 8Mb AGP V.Card
Mid Tower AT 250 Watt P.S
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AMD K6-2-3D 366/380 /400MHz$328/348/368
AMD K6-2-3D Now!! 300/333/350 MHz$264/284/298

Biostar BX or ALI AGPset
Trident 4Mb AGP Video Card
Mid Tower ATX 235 Watt P.S.
with CPU
Intel Pentium-II 300/350 MHz....$368/388
Intel Pentium-II 400/450 MHz....$478/598
AMD K6-2-3D 300/350/400MHz$228/248/308

ABIT BH6 BX AGPset
ATI Expert 98 8Mb AGP Video
Mid Tower ATX 250 W. P. S.
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Intel Pentium-II 300/350 MHz....$418/428
Intel Pentium-II 400/450 MHz....$528/658

Asus P2B AGP BX Chipset
Matrox Millenium G200
AGP 8Mb WRAM
Enlight Mid Tower ATX 250 W. P.S.
with CPU
Intel Pentium-II 300/350 MHz....$468/488
Intel Pentium-II 400/450 MHz ...$598/728

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Creative Connections

(continued from page 339)

Although the existing Plug and Play architecture is PC-centric, UPP makes it possible for devices to be discovered and used directly by other devices. For example, a digital camera can recognize a printer on the network and print a picture directly. What's more, UPP can identify each device's characteristics, including communications protocols and features such as whether the printer has color capability.

UPP plays a key role in Microsoft's home-networking vision, where PCs, appliances, and the services they provide become peers on the network. In this model, appliances such as printers, telephones, televisions, and game consoles exchange and replicate relevant data between themselves and the PCs on the network.

UPP software will be independent of the physical network media, so it will be compatible with existing network technologies, such as 10BaseT Ethernet and HomePNA, and new technologies, such as HomeRF and various power-line carrier protocols. It encompasses all types of networked and traditional peripheral devices, including PCs, networked peripherals, Web-based services, new smart appliances, and home automation systems—without requiring a centralized server to manage the devices.

Microsoft says UPP is a perfect standard for consumers because they can keep their existing device-driver structure. Likewise, this standard should be easier for vendors to implement, because UPP is built on existing Plug and Play standards.

So far, Microsoft has gained some hefty cross-industry support for further development of UPP. The list includes Advanced Micro Devices (AMD), AT&T, Compaq, Dell, Diamond Multimedia Systems, Eastman Kodak, Intel, Lexmark International, Lucent Technologies, National Semiconductor, Proxim, ShareWave, Sharp, 3Com, and Toshiba.

Because UPP will be incorporated into Windows 2000, it can be considered the nerve center of a home network, monitoring appliances or managing security cameras. From a commercial standpoint, this may be the most convenient standard—especially for consumers. A Windows 2000-centric home network, however, would also lead to a home largely controlled by the operating system. If your system crashes, many of your devices could lose some of their functionality.

UPP will require only a small amount of system resources, and Microsoft will deliver a TCP/IP-based implementation of UPP in late 1999.

ACTIVE LINKS

www.sharp.co.jp/sc/gaiyou/news-e/havi.html ..... *The Home Audio/Video Interoperability Core*
java.sun.com/products/jini ..... *Sun Microsystems Jini*
www.microsoft.com/homenet ..... *The Universal Plug and Play Initiative*

THE ENTERTAINMENT NETWORK

Several of the largest consumer electronics manufacturers—Hitachi, Matsushita, Philips, Sharp, and Sony—are working on a different standard of interoperability directed primarily at home digital audio and

(continued on page 344)

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TOS 1924FCV...540MB....$135
TOS 1926FCV...810MB....$145
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TOS 1401 MAV..1.4GB....SL....$155
TOS 13250MAN..3.2GB....$259
TOS 2104....2.1GB....SL....$185
TOS 2103 MAV..2.1GB....SL....$185
TOS3003MAN....3.0GB....$325
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TOS 6409 MAV..6.4GB....$350

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Cisco Goes Home

In a slightly different form of digital convergence, Cisco Systems has announced that in partnership with consumer electronics vendors, it will begin selling cable modems. These units will offer high-speed data, voice, and video connections, as well as integrated products for creating a home network.

With partners like Samsung and Sony, Cisco has developed cable modems with voice-over-IP capabilities to be sold under the Cisco NetWorks brand. These modems, while providing superfast Internet access, also use the Internet to offer phone services such as Caller ID, call forwarding, and conferencing, as well as virtual-private-network technology.

The company also announced a nonexclusive agreement with General Instruments to provide data, voice, and video services over AT&T and TCI's cable network.

Cisco has likewise announced the Cisco 924, a home-office product, which will offer integrated data, voice, and video services for about $1,000.

The Cisco 924 works like a router, and offers four Ethernet ports and two voice ports. It can connect four PCs or Internet devices, including the set-top box Cisco developed with Hitachi.

Cisco isn't stopping there. The company envisions a network that includes integrated security systems and connected appliances, and will likely pursue it using Sun Microsystems' Jini technology. ▼

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MANHATTAN DAND PRO 6200	69	89	119	195
COMPAQ	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**	**128M**
DESKPRO 2000/4000 (SD)	45	75	139	185
DESKPRO 6000 6233,6300(SDE)		89	129	195
DESKPRO XL 6150/6200 (DIM)	65	79	139	239
PROLIANT 1500,6/200 FLEX (DIM		79	185	249
PROLIANT 2500,2500R (DIMM)		79	185	249
PROLIANT 486 SERIES	49	65		
DELL	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**	**128M**
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DIMENSION XPS R450 (NEW)			119	249
DIMENSION XPS H233,266	65	69	119	
DIMENSION XPS P100C,120C ED	49	65	95	
OPTIPLEX GXA PII 233,266,300(SDE)		95	139	229
OPTIPLX GXI,GX PRO200 (DIMM)	69	79	139	229
OPTIPLEX GL,GM,GMT, (ED)	45	65	105	
OPTIPLX GS,GXL,GXMT(ED)	45	65	105	
GATEWAY 2000	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**	**128M**
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E-1000,E-3000,E-3100(SD)		79	115	209
E-5000-2266,2300 (SDE)		95	119	209
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BRIO 8000,8100 SERIES (ED)		75	139	
KAYAK XA PII 233,266,300(NEW)		79	139	205
KAYAK XU/XW PII 233,266,300(SDE)		89	119	229
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NETSERVER LH + 5/133/166	69	79	115	229
NETSERVER LH PRO PRO/200	69	79	115	229
NETSRVR LX PRO/LXE 6/166,6/200	69	79	115	229
VECTRA 500 SERIES (ED)	45	79	119	
VECTRA VL4 5/150,5/166	45	79	119	
VECTRA XA 6/180, 6/200	45	79	119	
IBM	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**	**128M**
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PC 330 6576; 700,730 750 SERIES	45	65	119	
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MICRON	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**	**128M**
MILLENNIA XKU PII AND PRO 2		75	119	2099
VETIX EL 1000N,2000N & LXI	69	75	115	229
MELLENNIA 350-400 SERIES (NEW)		85	129	269
POWERDIGM XLI & XSU SERIES	69	75	115	229
NEC TECHNOLOGY	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**	**128M**
DIRECTION SPL 233,266,300(SD)		79	119	195

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DELL POWEREDGE SERVER 4100/6100	119	229	629
DELL POWEREDGE SERVER 6300		339	519
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IBM NET FINITY 3000/3500	119	269	CALL
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COMPAQ PROSIGNIA 720(ECC)	119	229	
COMPAQ PROSIGNIA 740 (REG ECC)		230	619
COMPAQ PRO,LIANT 3000	169	269	519
GATEWAY ALR SERVER 7000 SERIES	105	279	CALL
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GATEWAY ALR SERVER 9000 SERIES	339	519	985
MICRON EVEREST SERVER / PRO	139	249	CALL
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MICRON NET FRAME 6200	339	519	985

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DELL PRECISION WKSTN 400 PII 266-300		249	CALL
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COMPAQ PROF WK AP400/AP 500	139	279	659

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SDRAM 8x72 - 8ns 3.3v ecc	64MB	119
SDRAM 32x64 - 8ns 3.3v	256MB	459
SDRAM 16x64 - 8ns 3.3v	128MB	188
SDRAM 8x64 - 8ns 3.3v	64MB	97

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SDRAM 8x72 - 10ns 3.3v ecc	64MB	113
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4X64-60 EDO 3.3v UBF	(32MB)	65

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SIMM 2X32-60	(8MB)	22

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SIMM 8X36-70	(32MB)	85
SIMM 4X36-60	(16MB)	69
SIMM 4X36-70	(16MB)	69
SIMM 2X36-60	(8MB)	31
SIMM 2X36-70	(8MB)	24

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SIMM 4X9-80 (9-CHIP)	(4MB)	17

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SIMM 16X8-70 (9-CHIP)	(16MB)	33
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HL-660/960/1260	42(4MB)	65 (8MB)	
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LBP-8SX	79		115
LBP-4/LITE PLUS	139		
EPSON	**2MB**	**4MB**	**5MB**
1500, 1000	59		
5000, 5200	55	95	
ACTION LASER II	69	89	105
EPL 6000	85	115	
EPL 7000	99		
EPSON	**8MB**	**16MB**	**32MB**
1100(4MB ONLY)/1600	55	69	95
HEWLETT PACKARD	**8MB**	**16MB**	**32MB**
HP 4000/5000N NEW		59	155
HP 4, 4M, 4SI	49	59	
HP 4P, 4MP, HP4V,5M,5N,5P,SSI	29	55	
HEWLETT PACKARD	**2MB**	**4MB**	**8MB**
HP4L, ML (1MEG ONLY)	$39		
HP 5L,5L-FS	35	43	69
HP550,C, 560,C (256K ONLY)	$29		
HP/IIID	45	65	
HPIII,IIIP, IIP	45	65	
PAINTJET XL300		65	85
IBM	**2MB**	**35MB**	**4MB**
4019	69	95	
4029/4037	39		55
4049/4079			45
LEXMARK	**8MB**	**16MB**	**32MB**
OPTRA/L/LX/LXN/R/RX	25	45	69
WIN WRITER 200, 400, 600	(4MB $69.00)		
OKIDATA	**2MB**	**4MB**	
OKI 400	52		
OKI 400E/410E	69	109	
OKI 600E/610E	65	85 (5MG)	149 (17MG)
OKI 810/830/840/850	79	CALL	
OKI 810E (NEW)		79	
Panasonic	**2MB**	**4MB**	**8MB**
KX 4410/4430	55	79	
KX 4420/4450I	65	99	
KX 4400/5400/4401	49	85	
KX 4440/5410	69	109	
KX-P 4450		85 (1MB)	
SP100	49	85	
KX-6500 (NEW)		55	
SHARP		**2MB**	**4MB**
JX9400/9600/9660/9700E		65	95
Texas Instruments	**2MB**	**3MB**	**4MB**
MICROLASER SERIES	78	117	156
MICROLASER TURBO			89
MICROWRITER SERIES	75		
ML PWRPRO/12,ML PRO8	55 (4MB)		95 (8MB)

Notebook Memory

ACER	16M	32M	64M
730,,760C,760CX,780CX			
782,784,786,787,760I	79		
NUOVO 971,972,970DX,970	79	109	
PRO 950,,954,955,956,957	85	123	
LIGHT 350P ,356,358,359,361	85	123	
LIGHT MULTIMD 382,383,384	85	123	
AST	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**
ASCENTIA A 41, A42,A70	75	95	155
ASCENTIA J SERIES (KIT)	85	123	
ASCENTIA P SERIES (NEW)	89	123	
ASCENTIA 900, 910N,950N	95		
ASCENTIA 800, 810/N	95		
Canon	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**
NOTEJET 486C (BN100)			
NOTEJET 486 (BN22/BN32			
NOTEJET III/III CX	85		
INNOVABK 1100T	85	135	
INNOVABK 10C/150C/175C			
INNOVABK 350,360,475	79		
INNOVABK 480, 490	79		
INNOVA 486NX			
COMPAQ	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**
ARMADA 8500, 7400, 7800 (NEW)		105	159
ARMADA 1100,1500,7700 SER	79	105	149
ARMADA 4100	79	105	149
CONCERTO 425/433	79		
CONTURA 4/25,C,CX	95		
CONTURA 400C,410C,420	95	(185 24MG)	
CONTURA AERO 4/33C	115		
LTE ELITE 4/25/C, 4/75/C	95		
LTE 5000,5100,5200,5300,540	85	105	149
PRESARIO 1010, 1020,1070,	89	109	
PRESARIO 1210, 1610,1680	85	109	149
DELL	**16M**	**32M**	**64**
INSPIRON 7000 SERIES	65	85	131
INSPIRON 3000 M200, M233	65	85	131
LATITUDE CP M166T,M233XT,	79	109	
LATITUDE LM P100SD,P133S	79	109	
LATITUDE LX475D,4100D/T	69		
LATITUDE 433/C, CX, 425	79		
LATITUDE XP 4100CX,450/CX	69		
LATITUDE 433M, MX, MC,	85		
EPSON	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**
ACTION NOTE 500C	(4MB $55.00)		
ACTION NOTE 650/660C	95		
ACTION NOTE 890,895,910	85		
FUJITSU	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**
LIFEBOOK 500,600,700 TX SER	79	105	
LIFEBOOK 400,500,600 SER	85	105	
MILAN,MONTECARLO,MONT	85	105	149
GATEWAY 2000	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**
COLORBOOK	109		
HANDBOOK	75		
LIBERTY	75		
SOLO 3100 LS (NEW)	75	105	195
SOLO 5/90,S120,V75)	75	115	
SOLO 2100, 2200 (NEW)	105	119	
SOLO 2300 (NEW)	75	105	145
SOLO 9100 SERIES (NEW)	75	105	145
HEWLETT PACKARD	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**
OMNIBOOK 2000	89	105	175
OMNIBOOK 4000 C/CT	89	105	
OMNIBOOK 5000,5500 CTS	89	105	175
OMNIBOOK 5700TX (MMX)	89	105	175
HITACHI	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**
C-SERIES NOTEBOOK	85	105	
E SERIES	85	119	
M SERIES	85	119	
M-X MMX SERIES NOTEBOOK	89	119	
VISIONBK PLUS 4140,4150,4360	95	119	
VISIONBK PRO 7340,7360,756049	95	119	

IBM	16M	32M	64M
THINKPAD 340			
THINKPAD 350, 350C	105		
THINKPAD 355, 355C,360CS	109		
THINKPAD 365C,CS,CD,E,ED			
THINKPAD 365 X,380,385D	75	95	
THINKPAD 510/CS,(500 8MG MAX)	95		
THINKPAD 560 (NEW)	75	95	
THINKPAD 560E	75	95	139
THINKPAD 700/C, 720/C			
THINKPAD 701 BUTTERFLY	75		
THINKPAD 750/755 CS DX	129	225	
THINKPAD 760C (NEW)	95	149	
THINKPAD 760 E,EL,ELD	75	95	139
THINKPAD 770 (SD)	79	95	139
MICRON	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**
MILLENNIUM TRANSPORT	75	129	
MILLENIUM TRANSPORT.XPE	79	119	
MILLENIUM TRANSPORT MRX P	79	129	
MIDWEST MICRO	**16M**		
ELITE SNDBOOK 486/486 I I	95		
ELITE SNDBOOK PLUS	95		
NEC	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**
VERSA E/M/V/P	85	149	
VERSA S, 2000, 2200C	75		
VERSA 2400,2405,2435	75		
VERSA 2600	79	125	175
VERSA 4000	79	109	
VERSA 6000H,6030H	85	109	
VERSA 6050MH,MHX P150	85	109	145
VERSA 6200MX P166 MMX	79	95	149
SHARP	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**
3010,3050	75		
3020,3060 PENTIUM	75		
3030, 3040, 3070	85	129	
7700/7750/8150,,8650,8660	89		
8700,8800,8900	95		
9000/9030/9020/9050	89	129	
9040/9070/9080	79	129	
WIDENOTE	59	85	
SONY	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**
VAIO PCG-705C,707C,717C,719C	69	95	169
Texas Instruments	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**
TI 4000E, 4000M	279		
TI 5000,5100,5200,5300	89		
TI 6020,6030,6050,6160	85	105	
TI EXTENSA 455 SERIES (NEW)	79		
TI EXTENSA 510/515/550/56059	119		
TI EXTENSA 600,650,660SER49	129		
TOSHIBA	**32M**	**48M**	**64M** **128M**
TOSHIBA 8000 (NEW)			149 CALL
TOSHIBA 100C/200/400/510 99			
710CD/720CDS/730/740	99		189 405
PROTEGE 650 CT,660 CDT	105		179
SATELLITE 225,440,460	79	105	149
TECRA 500/550/650/660	105	169	395
T1900,1900CT,1950,1960	105		
4500/4700/4800/4900	89	109	
T2100, T2150CDS/CDT	85		95 (24MG)
PROTEGE 2400/3400/3600	79		
WINBOOK	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**
WINBOOK XL (NEW)	79	109	165
WINBOOK XP	89	139	
WINBOOK XP 5 (NEW)		139	
WINBOOK FX (NEW)	89	139	
ZENITH	**16M**	**32M**	**64M**
Z-STAR EX	79		
Z-NOTE FLEX/ES/EX/GT	79		
Z-NOTE MX	85		
Z-NOTE 6000	89	139	
Z-NOTE 6200	79	95	139

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	2GB	4GB	5GB
AST			
ASCENTIA 800,810,ADVANTAGE NB,BRAVO NB	236	326	435
TOSHIBA			
SATELLITE 300CDS/CDT, 305CDS	236	326	435
SATELLITE 310CDS, 310CDT, 315CDS, 315CDT	236	326	435
T2400CS,T2400CT,2450CS,2450CT	236	326	435
T4500,4600,4700,4800,4900	236	326	435
PROTEGE T3400,T3400CT	236	326	435
TECRA 520CDT, 530CDT	236	326	435
TECRA 750CDT, 750CDTNT, 750CDM, 750DVD	236	326	435
TECRA 780CDM, 780CDMNT, 780DVD	236	326	435
COMPAQ			
CONCERTO 4/25, 4/33	236	326	435
CONTURA 4/25, 4/25CX, 4/25C	236	326	435
CONTURA 3/20, 3/25, 3/25C	236	326	435
CONTURA400,410,420,430 SERIES	236	326	435
CONTURA AERO 4/25, 4/33	236	326	435
LTE ELITE 4/50CX,4/75C,4/75CX	236	326	435
ARMADA 1100,1120,1125	236	326	435
ARMADA 1500 SERIES	236	326	435
PRESARIO 1010,1020,1030,1060,1065,1070,1075,1080	236	326	435
PRESARIO 1207, 1210, 1610, 1615, 1620	236	326	435
PRESARIO 1200 SERIES:1230, 1232	236	326	435
PRESARIO 1200 SERIES:1215	236	326	435
PRESARIO 1200 SERIES:1220, 1220ES	236	326	435
PRESARIO 1600 SERIES:1625, 1640	236	326	435
PRESARIO 1600 SERIES:1650, 1655	236	326	435
PRESARIO 1600 SERIES:1626	236	326	435
PRESARIO 1710 SERIES:1710SB	236	326	435
PRESARIO 1600 SERIES:1621, 1622, 1680, 168	236	326	435
CTX			
EZBOOK 5X86 SERIES	236	326	435
EZBOOK 700 SERIES	236	326	435
EZ 660CDT,EZ655CDT,EZ660CDT (PENT)	236	326	435
DEC			
HINOTE VP 520/120,525/120,535/133,545/150MMX	236	326	435
EPSON			
ACTIONNOTE 650, 650C, 680, 660C, 660CX	236	326	435
IBM			
THINKPAD 500, 510S	236	326	435
SHARP			
PC 8700,8800,8900	236	326	435
PC9000,9030	236	326	435
PC3010,3050	236	326	435
PC9040,9070	236	326	435
PC 9080 P133	236	326	435
Texas Instruments			
TRAVELMATE 4000, 4000E	236	326	435
TRAVELMATE 4000M	236	326	435
TRAVELMATE 5000, 5100, 5200	236	326	435
TRAVELMATE 6020 P120 6030 P133, 6050 P150	236	326	435
TRAVELMATE 7080, 7063NT P166MMX	236	326	435
EXTENSA 600, 600CD, 605CD P120	236	326	435
EXTENSA 650, 650CD, 650CDT P133	236	326	435
EXTENSA 800, 900T, 950CDT P133	236	326	435
NEC			
VERSA 2400;CD, 2405;CD	236	326	435
VERSA 3800CD,3850CD,3860CD,3870CD,3880CD,3866CDT	236	326	435
SHARP			
PC7700,7750	236	326	435
WINBOOK			
WINBOOK XP, FX, XP5	236	326	435

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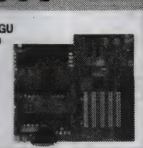
PII 266	PII 300	PII 333
$373	$380	$385
PII 350	PII 400	PII 450
$387	$566	$847

INTEL NIGHTSHADE $559
New 440BX 100MHZ/AGP
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$829	$836	$983
PII 450	PII 400 X2	PII 450 X2
$1195	$1372	$1791

SUPER MICRO S2DGU $519
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XEON 450/512K X1	XEON 450/512K X2
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SUPER MICRO P6SBU $315
PentII 233-400Mhz
440BX 100MHZ/AGP
4XPCI, 2XISA, IAGP
4X168-PN DIM 1GBMAX
Adaptec Ultra 2 Wide
Wide SCSI 80 MB's



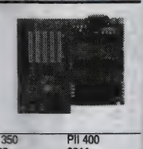
PII 266	PII 300	PII 333
$568	$575	$580
PII 350	PII 400	PI 450
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Dual SUPER MICRO P6DBS $372
Dual PentII 233-400 Mhz
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PII 333	PII 350	PII 400
$641	$649	$822
PII450	PII400 X2	PII450 X2
$1048	$1131	$1544

SUPER MICRO P6DGU $453
DUAL PENTII 233-400MHZ
440GX 100MHZ/AGP
5XPCI, 2XISA, IAGP
4X168-PN DIM 2GB
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Wide SCSI 80Mb's



PII 333	PII 350	PII 400
$729	$739	$911
PII 450	PII 400 X2	PII 450 X2
$1136	$1212	$1625

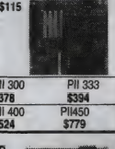
GIGABYTE

GIGABYTE GA-5AA/GA-5AX
AT/ATX Super Socket 7 $79 $79
ALI 100/120 Mhz/AGP
3XPCI, 2XISA, 1AGP
3X168-PN DIM, 768 MB MAX,
Intel, AMD K6-3, Cyrix, IDT



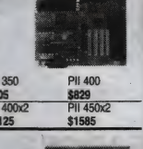
AMD K6II-350	K6III-400
$211	$289

GIGABYTE GA-686BXE/GA-6BXC
PentII 233-450Mhz $131 $115
440BX 100/133MHZ/AGP
5XPCI, 2XISA, 1AGP
4X168-PN DIM, 1 GB MAX,
2nd Generation, 3 Fan Detection
Ready Support Katmai



PII 266	PII 300	PII 333
$351	$378	$394
PII 350	PII 400	PII450
$396	$524	$779

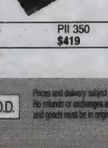
GIGABYTE GA-686BXDU
Dual PentII 233-450Mhz $435
440BX 100MHZ/AGP
4XPCI, 3XISA, IAGP
4X168-PN DIM 1GB MAX,



PII 333	PII 350	PII 400
$699	$705	$829
PII 450	PII 400x2	PII 450x2
$1079	$1125	$1585

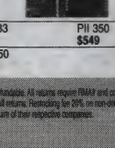
ASUS

ASUS P2B $155
Pent II 233-450 Mhz
440BX 100MHZ/AGP
4XPCI, 3XISA IAGP
3X168-PN DIM 760MB
MAX Ultra Dm/32 mb



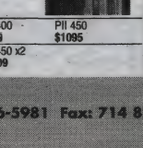
PII 300	PII 333	PII 350
$399	$409	$419
PII 400	PII 450	
$544	$795	

ASUS P2B $279
Dual Pent II 233-450 Mhz
440BX 100MHZ/AGP
4XPCI, 2XISA, IAGP
4X168-PN DIM 512MB MAX
Ultra Dma/33



PII 300	PII 333	PII 350
$525	$541	$549
PII 400	PII 450	
$671	$925	

ASUS P2B-DS $445
Dual Pent II 233-450 Mhz
440BX 100MHZ/AGP
4XPCI, 2XISA, IAGP
4X168-PN DIM 512MB MAX
Ultra SCSI



PII 350	PII 400	PII 450
$709	$869	$1095
PII 400 x2	PII 450 x2	
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MAX-G100	Matrox Productiva G100, 8M, SDRAM, AGP	85
MAX-G200	Matrox MILLENNIUM G200, 8M, SDRAM, AGP (EXP. TO 12MB	127

Networking Products

3C 905BTX	3COM 905B-TX-PCI, 10/100 Base-T with wake up	79
3C 905BTXNM	3COM 905B-TX-NM, 10/100 Base-T	77

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INTEL		AMD	
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Pentium II 350/512K	$286	K6III-333-3D	$113
Pentium II 400/512K	$476	K6III-350-3D	$132
Pentium II 450/512K	$796	K6III-366-3D	$160
Pentium Pro 200 / 256K	$389	K6III-380-3D	$179
Pentium Pro 200 / 512K	$879	K6III-400-3D	$210
Xeon 400 512K	$799		
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(continued from page 342)

video: the Home Audio/Video Interoperability (HAVi) Core. The companies are promoting the HAVi core specification as a home-network standard for the AV electronics and multimedia industries.

Although this standard is slightly different in that it targets digital audio and visual appliances, there is some overlap with the PC-centric approaches discussed above. The HAVi group believes that the enormous growth in the digital AV market indicates that consumers want to connect their AV appliances to create home "entertainment networks."

But for all AV electronics appliances to communicate with one another, they must incorporate middleware that contains elements common to all appliances on the network. The HAVi Core will define these elements, their roles, and their functions. And it will ensure that the software elements of different appliances will work together as well. The Messaging System serves as an API that facilitates communication between the software elements of the various appliances on the network, while the Device Control Module (DCM) represents each appliance on the network.

The spec is said to provide Plug-and-Play-like connectivity. Users can create a home network simply by connecting various electronics appliances through their digital interfaces, like IEEE 1394. The HAVi Communications Media Manager (CMM) will act as an interface between the software elements and IEEE 1394.

If a user wants to add a new appliance to the network or remove an appliance from it, no setting adjustments would be required. The appliances should be able to communicate, and to recognize and implement changes in the network configuration automatically. The HAVi Event Manager will inform the various software elements of these changes in the network.

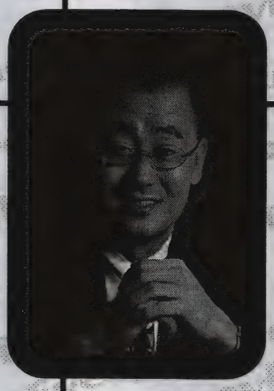
The future goal of HAVi is that once application software is developed, appliances will share functionality, just as they would on a Jini or a UPP network. HAVi also includes the Stream Manager, which creates connections and routes real-time AV streams between two or more appliances on the network. Consumers will also be able to import functions from newly purchased appliances into existing appliances, as long as both are HAVi-compliant.

So far, the companies that support HAVi plan to promote the core as a standard for the entire multimedia industry, not just for AV appliances. The standard should be available for download by press time.

Whatever standard is eventually adopted, it seems certain that increased connectivity among home appliances is on its way. If industry leaders could communicate as well as the devices they want to connect, things might move a little faster. ▼

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CS0499

Adobe's New View

Adobe is expanding the possibilities for Web graphics, as it's the first firm to announce products that support the proposed W3C open standard SVG.

by Ron Pacchiano

To help designers keep pace with the changes in the graphics world, as people move from print to Internet-based content, Adobe Systems, along with its partners Netscape Communications Corp. and IBM Corp., is pushing a new vector-based graphics standard. The technology should improve the Web experience for developers, browser vendors, and end users.

At the Showcase '99 conference held in January in San Diego, Adobe demonstrated its advanced technology in the form of its GoLive CyberStudio Professional Web-authoring product, which is based on the Scalable Vector Graphics (SVG) open standard proposed by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C).

Until recently, most Web graphics have been represented with bitmapped graphics formats (raster imaging), including GIF, JPEG, and PNG. An alternative to sending pixel values over the wire is vector graphics, which are mathematical descriptions of graphical elements.

Vector graphics are much more compact than raster graphics, particularly for charts, technical illustrations, and other nonphotographic images. Because the elements are described individually, viewers can display lines, curves, and text at higher resolutions for both viewing and printing. Currently, there is no formal standard for vector graphics, which is where Adobe's Precision Graphics Markup Language (PGML) and the W3C's SVG come into play.

PRECISE GOALS

Several vector-graphics formats are in use on the Web, but these are implemented mainly by proprietary plug-ins. In response, Adobe submitted a proposal for PGML to the W3C committee last April. PGML was meant to address both the Web's scalable vector-graphics needs and the needs of graphic artists who want to ensure that their designs appear on end-users' systems with the correct fonts, color, layout, and composition.

PGML relies on the same imaging model as PostScript and the PDF format, but it also adds Web-related features, such as interactive dynamic effects, and is expressed in Extensible Markup Language (XML), a core Web technology supported by most major vendors. PGML is also compatible with other Web standards, such as the Extensible Style Sheet Language (XSL), Cascading Style Sheets (CSS), the Synchronized Multimedia Integration Language (SMIL), and the Document Object Model (DOM).

PGML has since been folded into the SVG proposal, along with the Vector Markup Language (from Hewlett-Packard Co., Macromedia, and Microsoft Corp.), and Web Schematics (from the Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils). The SVG format is also written as an XML application and is usable as an XML namespace. This means that the SVG graphics language can be used in conjunction with other XML tag sets, such as those used in HTML and MathML markup.

The goal of the SVG standard is to make Web documents smaller, faster, more interactive, and displayable on a wider range of devices, from small mobile devices to PCs and high-resolution printers. It also emphasizes that the graphics generated by a vector-graphics format for the Web will render properly even if they are resized when displayed on different screens, or for the purpose of printing out an entire site on paper. This is a great benefit to Web users, who generally prefer to print out documents found on the Web. It is expected that SVG will soon appear in many browsers and authoring tools.

ADOBE'S VISION

According to Adobe, as a longtime provider of professional graphics tools, it recognized the need for better tools for developers of Web content, and in turn, a better experience for end users. At Showcase '99, in addition to unveiling Adobe's GoLive CyberStudio Professional, Adobe's CEO John Warnock demonstrated the versatility of SVG using Netscape Navigator, Microsoft Internet Explorer, and a "microviewer" technology on different types of units, including handhelds and a desktop. The microviewer, jointly developed by Adobe and IBM, is used for displaying SVG content on handheld devices.

Adobe also focused on how applications, including e-commerce and Web-based services, can benefit from SVG. Because it uses vector-based imaging, rather than the

(continued on page 356)



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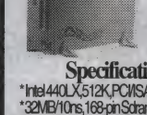
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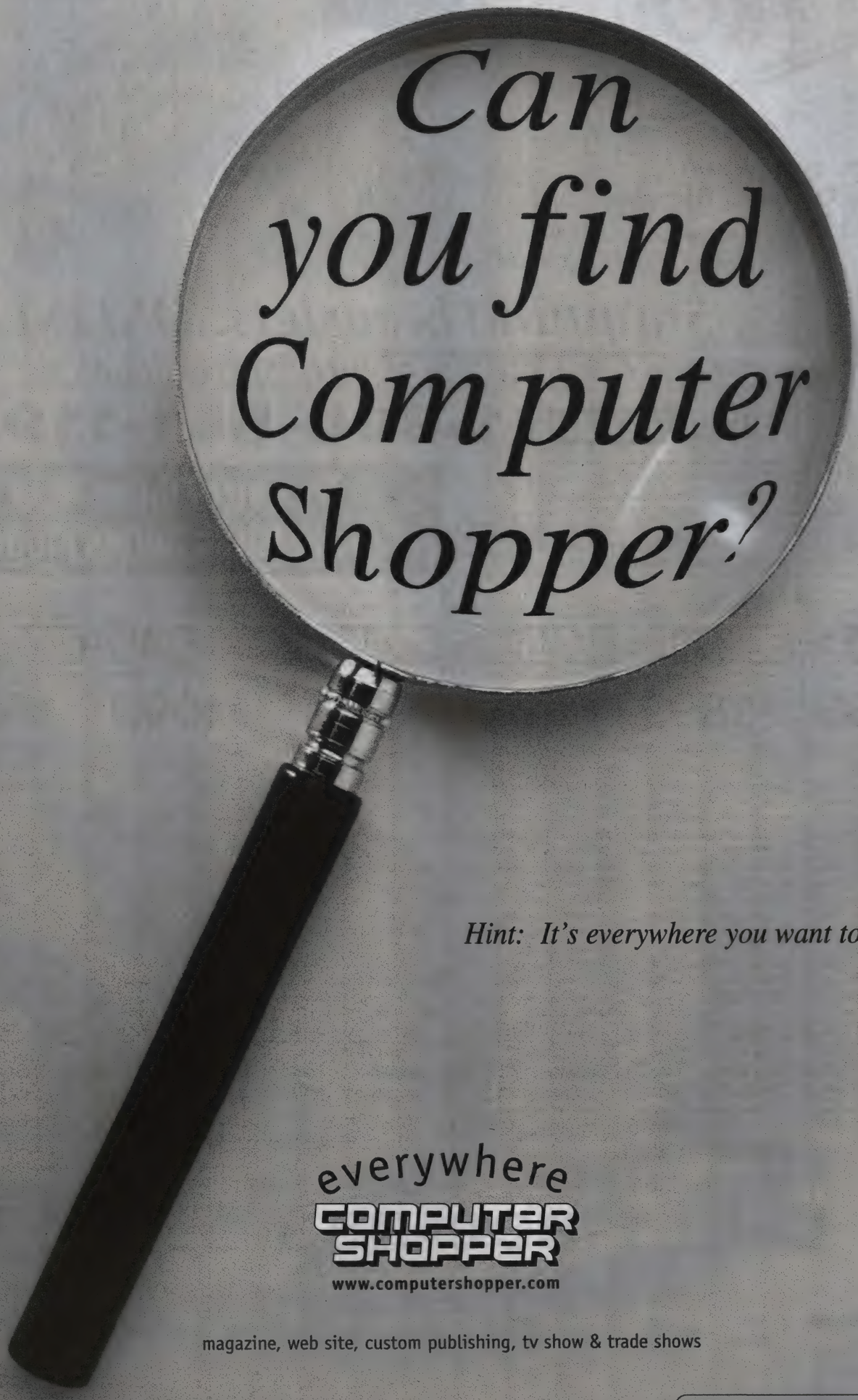
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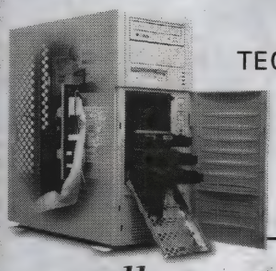
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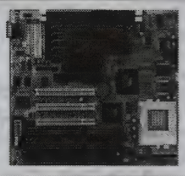
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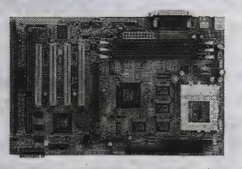
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K6-2 333/350/380 ..... 155/169/205
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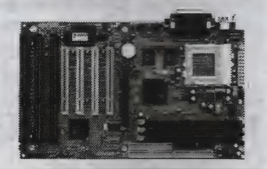
PA-2013

FIC $73

- VIA Apollo MVP3 AGPset
- 100MHz BUS Speed
- 1MB Pipeline Burst Cache
- ATX Form Factor: 12.2" x 8.12"

AMD K6-2 3DNOW Technology

K6-2 333/350/380 ..... 159/175/209
K6-2 400/450 ..... 225/299



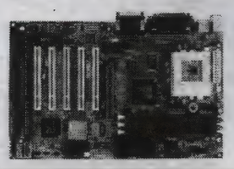
1590S TRINITY 100

TYAN $92

- VIA Apollo MVP3 AGPset
- 100MHz BUS Speed
- 1MB Pipeline Burst Cache
- Mini-AT design: 11.1" x 8.75"

AMD K6-2 3DNOW Technology

K6-2 333/350/380 ..... 175/189/229
K6-2 400/450 ..... 245/319



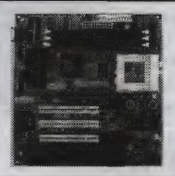
ASUS P5A

ASUS $92

- Ali M1541 Aladdin V AGPset
- 100MHz BUS Speed
- 512K Pipeline Burst Cache
- ATX Form Factor: 8.3" x 12.0"

AMD K6-2 3DNOW Technology

K6-2 333/350/380 ..... 175/189/225
K6-2 400/450 ..... 239/319



ASUS P5A-B

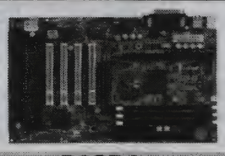
ASUS $85

- Ali M1541 Aladdin V AGPset
- 100MHz BUS Speed
- Baby AT design: 8.7" x 8.5"

AMD K6-2 3DNOW Technology

K6-2 333/350/380 ..... 169/185/225
K6-2 400/450 ..... 239/315

Intel® 440BX / 440GX Chipset Motherboards



P6SBA

SUPERMICRO $105

- Intel® 440BX Chipset (enabling AGP)
- SUPPORT Single PENTIUM-II 233—500MHz
- SUPPORT 100MHz PC SDRAM memory
- ATX size

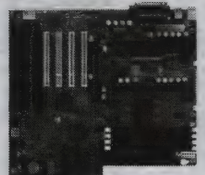
Intel®Celeron® Processor
300/333/366/400MHz 189/199/229/275
Intel®Pentium®II Processor
350/400/450MHz 335/439/659
Intel®Pentium®III Processor (Katmai)
450/500MHz 679/899

P6SBS

SUPERMICRO $299

- Intel® 440BX Chipset (enabling AGP)
- SUPPORT Single PENTIUM-II 233—500MHz
- Adaptec AIC 7895 UWide Dual SCSI on-board
- SUPPORT 100MHz PC SDRAM memory
- ATX size

Intel®Celeron® Processor
300/333/366/400MHz 385/399/425/469
Intel®Pentium®II Processor
350/400/450MHz 529/629/849
Intel®Pentium®III Processor (Katmai)
450/500MHz 869/1099



P6DGS

SUPERMICRO $419

- Intel® 440GX Chipset (enabling AGP)
- SUPPORT Dual PENTIUM-II 233—500MHz
- Adaptec AIC 7895 UWide Dual SCSI on-board
- SUPPORT 100MHz PC SDRAM memory
- Up to 2GB Memory
- ATX size

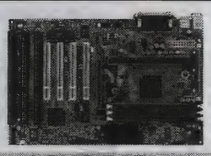
Intel®Pentium®II Processor
350/400/450MHz 649/759/979
Intel®Pentium®III Processor (Katmai)
450/500MHz 999/1229
SUPPORT DUAL PENTIUM-II CPUs
(2) 450MHz Intel Pentium® II processor 1519
(2) 450MHz Intel Pentium® III (Katmai) 1569
(2) 500MHz Intel Pentium® III (Katmai) 1999

P6DBS

SUPERMICRO $379

- Intel® 440BX Chipset (enabling AGP)

Intel®Pentium®II Processor
350/400/450MHz 609/719/945
Intel®Pentium®III Processor (Katmai)
450/500MHz 965/1189
SUPPORT DUAL PENTIUM-II CPUs
(2) 450MHz Intel Pentium® II processor 1479
(2) 450MHz Intel Pentium® III (Katmai) 1499
(2) 500MHz Intel Pentium® III (Katmai) 1959



ASUS P2B-98

ASUS $135

- SUPPORT Single PENTIUM-II 233—500MHz
- Intel® 440BX AGPset (100MHz) Chipset
- SUPPORT 100MHz PC SDRAM memory
- ATX form factor: 7.5" x 12.0"

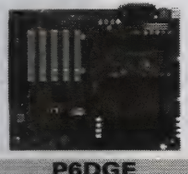
Intel®Celeron® Processor
300/333/366/400MHz 219/229/259/299
Intel®Pentium®II Processor
350/400/450MHz 365/469/689
Intel®Pentium®III Processor (Katmai)
450/500MHz 705/939

ASUS P2B-S-98

ASUS $329

- SUPPORT Single PENTIUM-II 233—500MHz
- Intel® 440BX AGPset (100MHz) Chipset
- Ultra DMA 33 MB/s burst data transfer rate
- Adaptec Ultra/Ultra Wide SCSI onboard
- **Adaptec 7890 Ultra-2 Wide SCSI on-board controller 80MB/s transfer rate**
- 3-168 pin DIMM Sockets
- 4 PCI / 3 ISA Slots, 1-AGP Connector
- ATX form factor: 7.5" x 12.0"

Intel®Celeron® Processor
300/333/366/400MHz 409/419/455/499
Intel®Pentium®II Processor
350/400/450MHz 555/659/879
Intel®Pentium®III Processor (Katmai)
450/500MHz 899/1029



P6DGE

SUPERMICRO $235

- Intel® 440GX Chipset (enabling AGP)
- SUPPORT Dual PENTIUM-II 233—500MHz
- SUPPORT 100MHz PC SDRAM memory
- Up to 2GB Memory
- ATX size

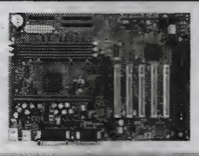
Intel®Pentium®II Processor
350/400/450MHz 465/575/789
Intel®Pentium®III Processor (Katmai)
450/500MHz 819/1039
SUPPORT DUAL PENTIUM-II CPUs
(2) 450MHz Intel Pentium® II processor 1339
(2) 450MHz Intel Pentium® III (Katmai) 1389
(2) 500MHz Intel Pentium® III (Katmai) 1799

P6DBE

SUPERMICRO $195

- Intel® 440BX Chipset (enabling AGP)

Intel®Pentium®II Processor
350/400/450MHz 429/535/749
Intel®Pentium®III Processor (Katmai)
450/500MHz 779/999
SUPPORT DUAL PENTIUM-II CPUs
(2) 450MHz Intel Pentium® II processor 1279
(2) 450MHz Intel Pentium® III (Katmai) 1339
(2) 500MHz Intel Pentium® III (Katmai) 1775



TSUNAMI 1846S

TYAN $109

- Intel® 440BX Chipset (enabling AGP)
- SUPPORT Single PENTIUM-II 233—500MHz
- SUPPORT 100MHz PC SDRAM memory
- ATX size

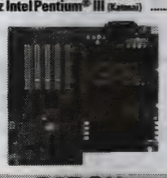
Intel®Celeron® Processor
300/333/366/400MHz 195/205/235/279
Intel®Pentium®II Processor
350/400/450MHz 339/445/665
Intel®Pentium®III Processor (Katmai)
450/500MHz 685/899

TIGER-100 1832DL

TYAN $195

- Intel® 440BX Chipset (enabling AGP)
- SUPPORT Dual PENTIUM-II 233—500MHz
- SUPPORT 100MHz PC SDRAM memory
- ATX size

Intel®Pentium®II Processor
350/400/450MHz 429/529/739
Intel®Pentium®III Processor (Katmai)
450/500MHz 769/999
SUPPORT DUAL PENTIUM-II CPUs
(2) 450MHz Intel Pentium® II processor 1289
(2) 450MHz Intel Pentium® III (Katmai) 1329
(2) 500MHz Intel Pentium® III (Katmai) 1789



P6DGU

SUPERMICRO $469

- Intel® 440GX Chipset (enabling AGP)
- SUPPORT Dual PENTIUM-II 233—500MHz
- Adaptec 7890 Ultra-2 Wide SCSI on-board controller 80MB/s transfer rate
- SUPPORT 100MHz PC SDRAM memory
- Up to 2GB of Memory
- ATX size

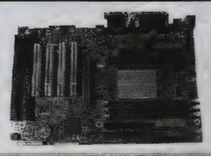
Intel®Pentium®II Processor
350/400/450MHz 699/799/999
Intel®Pentium®III Processor (Katmai)
450/500MHz 1049/1279
SUPPORT DUAL PENTIUM-II CPUs
(2) 450MHz Intel Pentium® II processor 1569
(2) 450MHz Intel Pentium® III (Katmai) 1599
(2) 500MHz Intel Pentium® III (Katmai) 2049

P6DBU

SUPERMICRO $439

- Intel® 440BX Chipset (enabling AGP)

Intel®Pentium®II Processor
350/400/450MHz 659/765/989
Intel®Pentium®III Processor (Katmai)
450/500MHz 999/1229
SUPPORT DUAL PENTIUM-II CPUs
(2) 450MHz Intel Pentium® II processor 1499
(2) 450MHz Intel Pentium® III (Katmai) 1559
(2) 500MHz Intel Pentium® III (Katmai) 1999

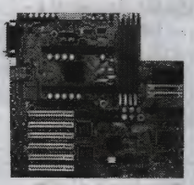


SE440BX-2 SEATTLE

intel. $145

- Intel® 440BX Chipset (enabling AGP)
- SUPPORT Single PENTIUM-II 233—500MHz
- Yamaha Wavetable Sound Built-in
- SUPPORT 100MHz PC SDRAM memory
- ATX size

Intel®Celeron® Processor
300/333/366/400MHz 229/239/269/309
Intel®Pentium®II Processor
350/400/450MHz 369/479/699
Intel®Pentium®III Processor (Katmai)
450/500MHz 729/949

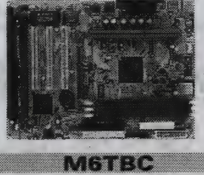


THUNDER-100 1836DLUAN

TYAN $469

- Intel® 440BX Chipset (enabling AGP)
- SUPPORT Dual PENTIUM-II 233—500MHz
- Adaptec AIC 7895 UWide Dual SCSI on-board
- Intel® PCI 100MBs network on-board
- Yamaha wavetable audio on-board
- SUPPORT 100MHz PC SDRAM memory
- ATX size

Intel®Pentium®II Processor
350/400/450MHz 699/799/999
Intel®Pentium®III Processor (Katmai)
400/450MHz 1039/1279
SUPPORT DUAL PENTIUM-II CPUs
(2) 450MHz Intel Pentium® II processor 1549
(2) 450MHz Intel Pentium® III (Katmai) 1599
(2) 500MHz Intel Pentium® III (Katmai) 2049



M6TBC

BIOSTAR GROUP $89

- Intel® 440BX Chipset
- Support Single Pentium® II 233-450MHz
- Support 100MHz PC SDRAM memory
- ATX form factor: 10.5" x 7.6"

Intel®Celeron® Processor
300/333/366/400MHz 175/185/215/259
Intel®Pentium®II Processor
350/400/450MHz 309/425/645
Intel®Pentium®III Processor (Katmai)
450/500MHz 665/879



M5-ALA

BIOSTAR GROUP $67

- Ali M1541 Aladdin V AGPset
- 100MHz BUS Speed
- 1MB Pipeline Burst Cache
- Three 64-bit 168pin DIMM memory
- 4 32-bit PCI & 2 16-bit ISA Slots
- 1 32-bit AGP Slot
- 4 EIDE Support Ultra DMA 33MB/s
- 2 ATX Serial ports, PS/2 Keyboard & Mouse
- 1 ECP/EPP parallel, 2 USB Ports
- ATX Form Factor: 12.0"x 8.0"

AMD K6-2 3DNOW Technology

K6-2 333/350/380 ..... 149/165/199
K6-2 400/450 ..... 215/299

Pentium®II XEON

SUPERMICRO $499

S2DGU XEON

400MHz Intel Pentium® II XEON w/512K 1259
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D-LINK 16-port 10/100MBs Dual speed network hub .. 355

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TEAC CD-56S 6X/24X CDR, SCSI Retail Package 435
BTC 621E 2X/6X CDR-W, IDE Retail Package 209
HP 8100i 4X/8X CDR-W, IDE Retail Package 339
Smart&Friendly CD SPEEDRACER
4X/4X/16 CDR-W, SCSI with SCSI Adapter, Retail Package 449

DVD CD-ROM DVD
Creative Labs 5X Encore PC-DVD Retail Kit 225
3X Generation BrandName Internal Drive IDE 119

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PHOEBE PHOEBE
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56K V.90 PCI Internal Fax/Modem w/voice 34
56K V.90 External Fax/Modem w/voice 59
56K V.90 PCMCIA Fax/Modem 69
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XJ700T Technitron 17" SVGA .25mm 1280x1024 NI 299

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FOCUS 9200 (programmable/built-in calculator/trackball) 39
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Microsoft Intellimouse Serial or PS/2 27
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Logitech Marble Trackball Serial or PS/2 39

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Xpert-128 AGP 16MB 109
Rage Fury AGP 32MB (TV out) 155
Rage Magnum AGP 32MB 149

DIAMOND MULTIMEDIA DIAMOND MULTIMEDIA
Viper V330 4MB (AGP) 69
Viper V550 nVidia Riva TNT 16MB (AGP) 109

STB STB
Velocity 4400 nVidia Riva TNT 16MB AGP (TV out) 109

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ATX TYPE CASES
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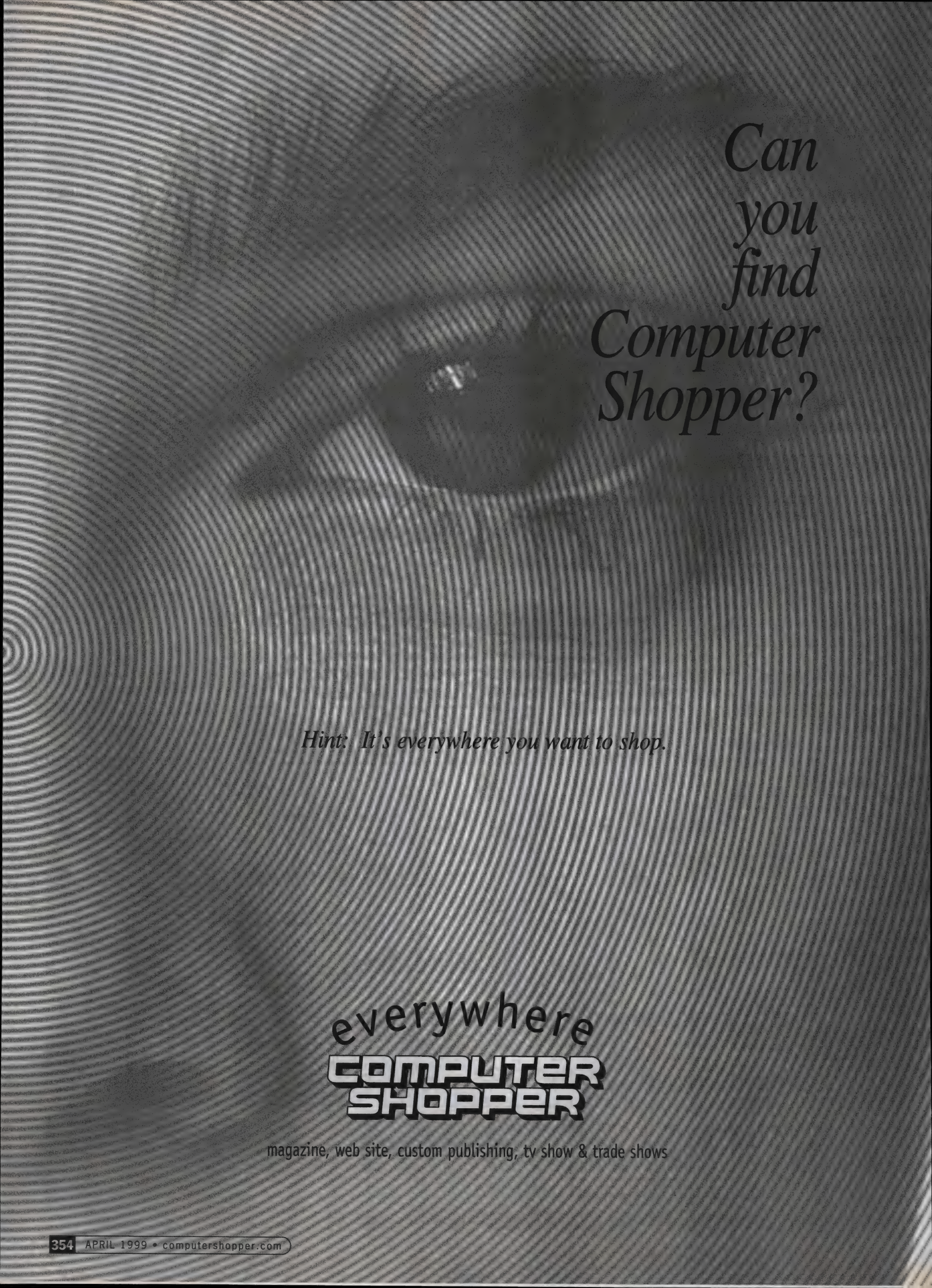
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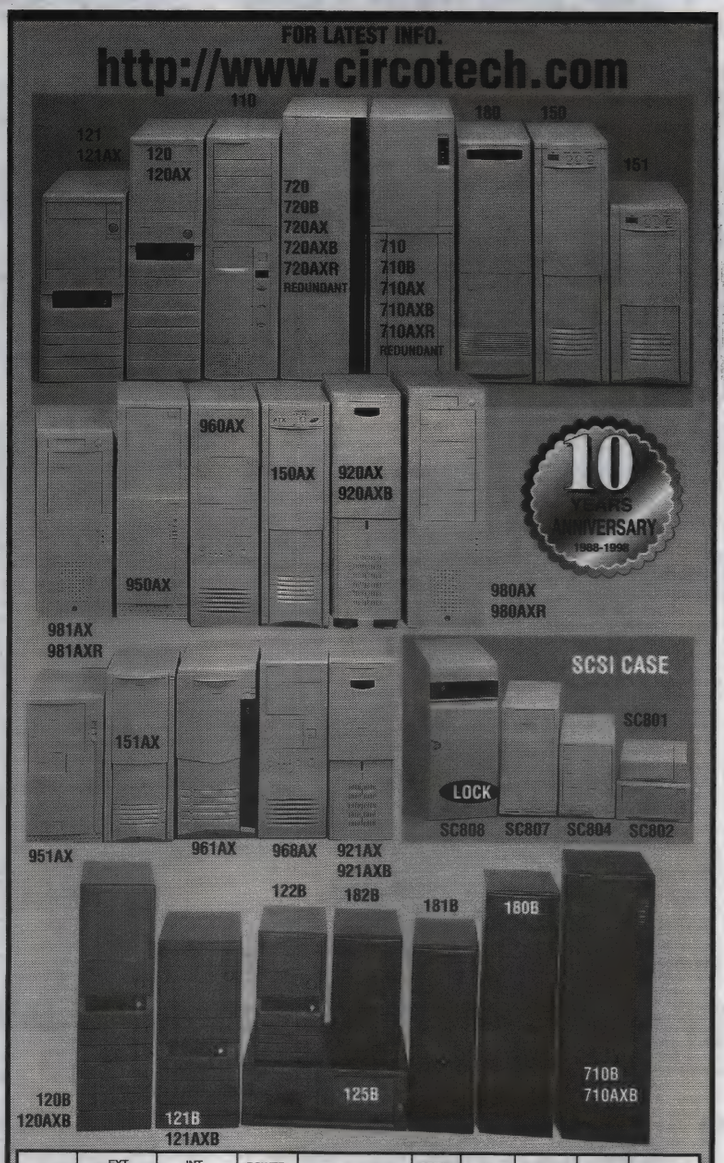
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Adobe's New View

(continued from page 346)

more cumbersome raster-based graphics, SVG can bring to the Web the higher-resolution graphics that come closer to the images consumers see in magazines, catalogs, and advertisements.

According to Adobe, if e-commerce is to be successful, it is essential that consumers have the ability to easily access, view, and print the high-quality content that accurately represents the products and services they are interested in buying.

SVG is compatible with Adobe's existing drawing, illustration and Web-authoring programs, such as Illustrator, so Web-content creators can export vector graphics to the Web without loss of quality. It works in conjunction with Adobe's page-layout technologies as well, so designers can move high-quality content to the Web using SVG and deploy a "cross-media" solution. Every graphics component can be independently programmed, morphed, or used as a hyperlink. This results in the end user being able to dig deep into an SVG object to obtain more dynamic information—perfect for various Internet-business applications.

For end users, SVG lends a more dynamic and interactive feel to Web graphics, while also increasing the speed of downloads, freeing bandwidth, and optimizing browser performance. In addition to faster downloads and richer graphics, it offers high-performance zooming and panning inside of graphics without reloading, and the ability to search text within a graphic image using any search engine. SVG also ensures color accuracy with more than 16 million colors instead of the traditional 256—a significant benefit for Web shopping and browsing.

Products based on SVG should be available to end users at the end of the year. "Adobe's vision for the Web goes beyond delivering award-winning applications that can be deployed across various mediums," says Warnock. "As a leading implementer of SVG, Adobe is actively involved in developing open standards that define tomorrow's online experience. The breakthrough advances of SVG place Web graphics at the center of the e-business experience." ▼

Crawling Around

Adobe experiments with agent technology.

In another effort to enhance Web-user experiences, Adobe is experimenting with a technology code-named Spider, a software agent that gathers specified information—including graphics—from Web sites. Once the information is gathered, it converts it into a PDF file. Essentially, it is a more sophisticated way to manage the information we take in from the Web.

With the Spider agent, all links and navigational buttons within the site are preserved, and the viewer can zoom in on graphics and other portions of the file. The technology currently runs on the Windows platform, but Adobe expects that it will eventually become cross-platform to collect data and graphics from various sites. With the technology, you can also gather information from various sites to create your own personalized news page.

Spider will also let users create more robust printouts of Web pages, since all the info is stored in one file. Users can archive Web sites or take snapshots of specific stories throughout the day and consolidate that information into one document.

Currently, the company does not have a product scheduled to be announced that contains the functionality. Adobe is, however, still refining the technology and is exploring options for delivering Spider technology commercially and/or licensing it. Adobe expects the engine to reach the market in some form by the end of the year. ▼

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- PCI 64 Voice Wavetable Sound
- Mini-tower En-Lite, 235w UL
- 104 Key Win98 Keyboard
- Mitsumi Scrolling Mouse
- 120w Speakers●Win 98, Plus 98
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- 1.44mb 3.5" Floppy Drive
- Yamaha Sound System
- Mid-tower ATX, 235 w UL
- 104 Key Win98 Keyboard
- Mitsumi Scrolling Mouse
- 120 watt speakers
- Windows 98, Microsoft Plus 98
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Celeron A-366Mhz, 128K Cache ... $793
Intel PII-350Mhz $899
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- PCI 64 Voice Wavetable Sound
- Mid-tower ATX, 235 w UL
- 104 Key Win98 Keyboard
- Mitsumi Scrolling Mouse
- 120 watt speakers
- Windows 98, Microsoft Plus 98
- CD Pack - 1005 Titles

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Celeron A-400Mhz, 128K Cache ... $859
Intel PII-350Mhz $899
Intel PII-400Mhz $1039
Intel PII-450Mhz $1169

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- VIA MVP3 Chipset 100Mhz Bus
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- 3.5" 1.44mb Mitsumi Floppy
- 5 Year Limited Warranty

AMD K6-2/3D 300MHz 249
AMD K6-2/3D 350MHz 269
AMD K6-2/3D 400MHz 309

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- 3.5" 1.44MB Mitsumi Floppy
- 5 Year Limited Warranty

Celeron A-300MHz, 128k Cache .. 292
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Intel PII-350MHz 449
Intel PII-400/450MHz 595/709

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- 32MB PC100 SDRAM
- 3.5" 1.44MB Mitsumi Floppy
- 5 Year Limited Warranty

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Celeron A-366MHz, 128k Cache .. 421
Intel PII-350MHz 449
Intel PII-400/450MHz 549/749

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19" .26dp 1600x1200 389

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17" C70 .28dp,1280x1024 235
17" C72 .26dp,1280x1024 275
19" C92 .22dp,1600x1200 429

Video Cards

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Mid-Tower Apogee ..... Call

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Shuttle VIA 591P 100MHz AT 69
FIC VIA 503+ 100MHz, AT 69
FIC ALI 2013 100MHz ATX 79
MicroStar MS-5169 100MHz ATX 75
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10.1GB U-ATA, IDE 199
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Intel P-II 350MHz 289
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Alfred Poor's Computer Cures

by Alfred Poor

ILLUSTRATION BY NIKOLAI PUNIN

FROM A DISTANCE

Dear Alfred:

I have a digitizer tablet, and the cord that came with it isn't long enough to suit me. Can I just buy a regular serial cable to extend the existing cable's reach, or do I have to specially configure a new cord to work correctly?

Gary Griffen via the Web

Dear Gary:

Most tablets use a standard serial-port connection, and if that is the case with your model, it should work fine with an extension cable added to the original cable. There are a couple of points to keep in mind.

First, you'll want a cable that is pinned straight through, which means Pin 1 on one end is connected to Pin 1 on the other end. If the existing cable connects to a 9-pin connector on your computer, then you'll want a cable that has a female 9-pin connector for the computer end and a male 9-pin connector for the cable end. If the computer-end connector is a 25-pin type, it's easiest to get a cable with 25-pin connectors at each end.

There is a limit to how long an extension you can add. For serial connections, the practical limit is about 50 feet total length, though this can be extended or shortened by the quality of the cable.

The easiest cable configuration to get is one that has all the pins connected to each other at both ends, whether you're using 9-pin or 25-pin connectors. Most tablets don't need more than nine connections, but if you're running with a 25-pin connector, it's better to pay for the extra connections than run the risk of not connecting one of the signal lines.

Finally, tablets can also be used as pointing devices, and it may be helpful to remember that you can have more than one pointing device connected to a computer with Windows 95 and Windows 98. Before Windows 95, you would have had to reboot whenever you switched from a mouse to a trackball to a tablet, but now you can have two of these connected and active at the same time.

AMATEUR TEST PILOTS

Dear Alfred:

When I got my first computer two years ago, I downloaded a beta program, and my computer crashed. As a result, I never tried any beta software again. Now there is a new beta version for a program that I use regularly, and I don't know whether or not to try it. What is beta software, and can it be run on any computer? Is it in some special format?

Robin Empson via the Web

Dear Robin:

You are not alone in being confused over this practice. Beta software gets its name from the Greek alphabet, where beta is the second letter after alpha.

It is standard practice in the software industry to go through successive rounds of testing before offering the product for sale. (Companies also give away some products, such as browsers.) The first level of testing is alpha testing, and this is typically done just in-house because the initial versions can be particularly unstable, large portions may not be functional, and the revisions come frequently.

Beta software is the second level, and for this stage, the companies frequently recruit users outside the company to test the software. This practice exposes the software to a broader range of configurations.

Beta-testing programs can be organized in a variety of ways. In some cases, the publisher wants to keep the new product secret. The beta testers are selected carefully, and they may even be required to sign a nondisclosure agreement (NDA) that prevents them from discussing the program with anyone outside of the publisher's company. Beta programs may also require that the testers file detailed reports on the program, listing any bugs with specifics on what was done to create the problem.

Other beta programs are much looser. The new program is made available to the general public for free, in return for feedback from users who encounter problems. Releasing the beta version indicates that the publisher does not view it as a finished product and that there are no guarantees it will work.

In general, beta testers receive no direct compensation for their efforts. Instead, they will sometimes receive a free copy of the final product or be given the opportunity to buy it at a discount.

There is a definite downside to beta software, as you have already discovered. It is possible that the program could disrupt your computer's operation. Some may not uninstall completely, and some may cause your system to crash. In certain cases, you may have to reformat your hard drive completely, and reinstall all your software and data to recover.

As a result, you should always carefully consider the benefits and risks of trying beta programs. Keep in mind that you're hiring out as a free test pilot and that the publisher makes no promises the program will work. If you should try a beta version, be sure to make a complete backup of your system before you install anything, to make it easier to recover in the event of a major conflict. ▼

Alfred Poor's TIP OF THE MONTH

WHEN MEMORY FORGETS

This month's Tipster has some suggestions on ways to convince a memory slot to work when it seems to be reluctant.

Dear Alfred:

A friend was having trouble with a memory-module slot and asked my advice on how to fix it. Here are some of the suggestions I could offer.

First, clean the slot with alcohol using a sponge-tip swab, which doesn't leave fibers the way a cotton swab might. Scrub up and down on the pins, not sideways. Also clean the contacts on the memory module. You may want to examine the slot under a strong light to see if any of the latching spring-loaded pins are bent or are retracted so they do not make contact.

If there is a loose connection between the module and the slot, slide a standard straight pin between the module and the slot. This is a long shot, but if it works, just cut the top of the pin off flush with the bottom of the memory module.

Norman Worley via the Web

Dear Norman:

Another way to clean the contacts on the memory module is to rub them with a clean pencil eraser. This can be effective, but don't use the eraser on the slot because tiny bits of the rubber could fall in the slot and disrupt the connection.

Do you have a tip you'd like to share? Each month, we print the best reader-submitted tip. If your tip is chosen, you will receive a Tip of the Month T-shirt.



If you post it on ZDNet, please start the subject with the word "TIP." Send your questions and tips to:

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3. 250W power supply/OverTemp-sensing
4. Operating Voltage 95-260 VAC 45-440 Hz
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7. 2x5.25" 1x3.5" drive bays
8. Two case cooling fan forcing air cross-flow
9. Shock 30Gs Storage, 3G operation
10. W.D.H. 16.5" x 9.1" x 11.2", 25 lbs 11.Upgradable to PT II BX

PC2: PORTABLE (Beige Available)

PC 2

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2. 12.1" 13.3" 14.1" 15.1" TFT 1024x768
3. Upgradable to PT II BX
4. 108 key/touch pad/two spks /amp
5. 2x5.25" 2x3.5" drive bay/7 slots
6. W.D.H. 15.7" x 9.75" x 11.5", 25 lbs
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PC7 & PC9: PORTABLE

PC 7 PC 9

1. PC7:12.1"DSTN, TFT 800x600 or TFT1024x768
2. PC 9:13.3" 14.1" 15.1" TFT 1024 x 768
3. 2x5.25" 2x3.5" drive bay/7 slots
4. 4MB VGA card. Upgradable to PT II BX
5. Optional battery pack for field operation
6. LCD Backlight power switch
7. 105 key/touch pad/ two spks /amp
8. W.D.H. 15.7" x 7.9" x 12.6", 18 lbs (PC 7)
9. W.D.H. 15.7" x 8.5" x 12.6" , 21 lbs (PC 9)

PC8

PC 8

1. 12.1" TFT, 800x600 resolution
2. 1x5.25" 2x3.5" drive bay. 2 speakers
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4. Foot pad for better viewing angle
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ATT SIZE
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230 - 400W
(6 x 5½ x 3⅜)

FOR AT MOTHERBOARD
AT SIZE
230 - 600W
(8⅜ x 6 x 5⅞)

PRICE	ATX	SS	AT & ATT
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250W	45	48	55
300W	65	65	72
350W	115	N/A	N/A
400W	160	165	160
500W	N/A	N/A	240
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250W $57 300W $77
Upgradable to any ATX case

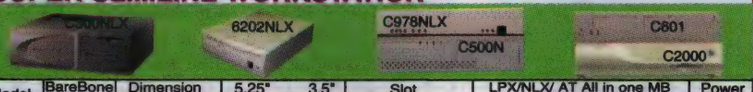
1- ATX 2.01 Compliant, themo control fan
2- CE, FCC, UL, CSA, TUV Approved
3- Maximum 2,500rpm/3,100rpm
4- Maximum 30CFM/31CFM (Air Flow)
5- 28.5dBA/33.5dBA (Noise Level)

This ATX power supply is produced in an ISO-9002 quality controlled facility and uses quality components like Sunon (R) ballbearing cooling fan to provide a reliable and low noise power source for your computer system.

ACCESSORIES

	Price		Price
586/Pentium II CPU COOLING FAN wB.B	10/15	TEAC 3.5" FLOPPY DRIVE	23
CASE FAN w/ BALL BEARING	10/15	VOLCANO SUBWOOFER Spks 480W	50
IDE/SCSI REMOVABLE RACK w/ FAN	25/30	HDD COOLING FAN	15
WIDE SCSI REMOVABLE RACK w/ FAN	85	HDD/FDD MOUNTING KIT	5/10

SUPER SLIMLINE WORKSTATION

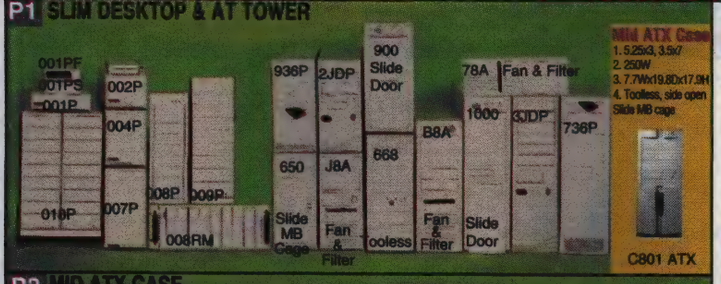


Model	BareBone Price	Dimension W.D.H(inch)	5.25" Ext./Int.	3.5" Ext./Int.	Slot PCI / ISA	LPX/NLX/ AT All in one MB I/O PORTS	Power Supply
6202NLX BX	$495 PII only	11.2x13.6x3.35	1/0 (W/ floppy & CD)	1/1	2PCI or 1PCI 1ISA	PS2 Kb&Ms,Speaker/LineIn/Mic, Joystick/Midi, 1P.2S, VGA, USB, RJ45LAN, Audio	230Watt
C601	$260	13.7x16.7x3.35	1/0	1/1	2PCI 1ISA	1xVGA, 1P.2S, PS2 MS & KeyB	150 Watt
C500N	$255	14.1x16.6x3.6	1/0	1/1	1PCI 1ISA or 2PCI	1xVGA, 1P.2S, PS2 MS & KeyB	100 Watt
C978NLX	$315 PII add $100	11X13.6X3.35	1Slim CD size	1/1	1PCI 1ISA or 2PCI	2S, 1P, Floppy, USB, RJ-45, PS/2 Mouse, PS/2 Keyboard, VGA, Audio, Game, IR	135 Watt
C2000	$280	15.4x16.3x3.45	1/0	1/1	2PCI or 1PCI 1SA	PS2 KB&MS,Line In&out, Mic in, Game/Midi, 1P.2S, VGA Video and S-Video in&out	150 Watt

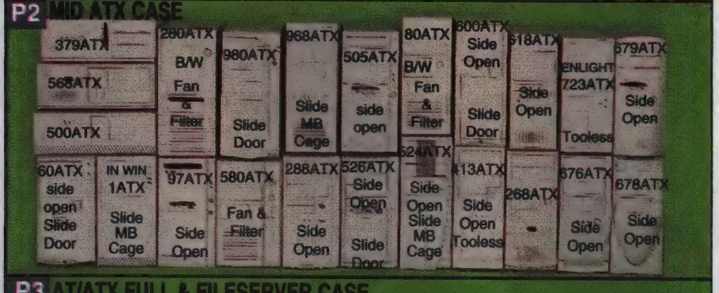
COMPUTER CASES

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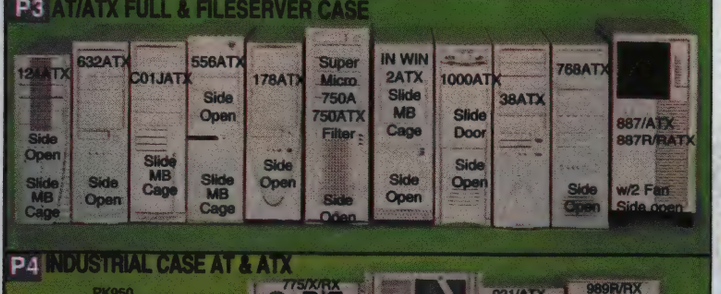
P1 SLIM DESKTOP & AT TOWER



P2 MID ATX CASE



P3 AT/ATX FULL & FILESERVER CASE



P4 INDUSTRIAL CASE AT & ATX



AT DESKTOP &TOWER CASE

Model	Price	Dimension W.D.H.	MB Size	5.25 Ext./Int.	3.5 Ext./Int.	Watt P.S.
P1 EXTERNAL SCSI CASE						
001PF	$85	8.5x10x2		-	1/0	40
001PS	$85	8.5x10x2		-	0/1	40
001P	$80	9.9x11.5x2.8		1/0	-	40
002P	$99	6.9x14.6x5.8		2/0	-	60
004P	$123	6.8X15.3X9.3		4/0	-	230
007P	$210	7x15.8x13		7/0	-	250
008P	$285	7x19x15.8		8/0	-	300
009P	$320	6.7x15.7x18.7		9/0	-	300
008RM	$365	19x18x7		8/0	-	300
018P	$610	18.5x24.8x23.5		18/0	-	2X300
936P	$85	7.1x16.3x14.8	B	3/0	2/2	230
P2 ATX MIDTOWER						
379ATX	$87	16.6x16.6x6.4	ATX	3/0	1/2	230
568ATX	$99	16.5x16.6x6.8	ATX	3/0	2/1	230
500ATX	$91	17.5x18x6.3	ATX	2/1	2/1	230
60ATX	$89	8.5x19.7x15.6	ATX	3/0	1/2	230
1ATX	$75/99	8.7x16.8x15.7	ATX	3/0	2/2	230/300
280ATX	$115	8.5x17.9x18.5	ATX	4/0	2/3	250
97ATX	$105	8.3x17x15.5	ATX	3/0	1/3	230
980ATX	$109	8.5x17.3x18.5	ATX	4/0	1/4	250
580ATX	$100	9.5x16.5x15	ATX	3/0	2/1	230
968ATX	$89	7.5x16.8x19.3	ATX	3/0	3/1	230
288ATX	$80	8.3x17x16	ATX	3/0	2/1	250
P3 FULL & FILE SERVER CASE						
124ATX	$122/142	7.5x16.7x22.8	X	5/0	2/4	250/300
632ATX	$125	7.5x17x24.5	X	6/0	1/3	250
C01JATX	$110	7.5x16.8x24.5	X	6/0	3/1	230
556X	$125/145	7.5x16.8x25	B/X	6/0	1/5	250/300
178ATX	$120/140	7.5x16.5x24.8	X	6/0	1/5	250/300
750X	$165/$165	8.3x17.3x26.4	F/X	6/0	1/3	300
P4 INDUSTRIAL CASE						
PK950	$1450	19x16.7x8.6	B	1/0	0/2	250
878/X	$410/$425	8.1x19.1x25.8	F/X	9/2	0/0	300
878R/RX	$760	8.1x19.1x25.8	F/X	9/2	0/0	R300
101R/RX	$680	8.7x24.2x27	F/X	9/0	1/0	R400
1010R/RX	$670/$760	13.4x21.8x23.8	F/X	9/0	1/0	R400
1012R/RX	$700/$799	13.4x21.8x27.6	F/X	11/0	1/0	R400
1014R/RX	$970/$1090	13.4x21.8x31.3	F/X	13/0	1/0	R400
775X/RX	$320/$600	19x20x7	B/X	2/0	1/2	250/250R
922/X	$249/$272	19x19x7	B/X	2/0	1/1	250
1620R/RX	$1072/$1192	16.8x20.5x34.3	(F/X)x2	16/0	0/0	R300
970/X	$290/$310	19x19x7	B/X	3/0	1/2	250
109/X	$176/$188	8.7x17.8x26.8	F/X	10/0	0/0	300
109R/RX	$510/$540	8.7x17.8x26.8	B/F	10/0	0/0	R300
107/X	$170/$187	8.7x17.8x26.8	F/X	5/3	2/0	300

Model	Price	Dimension W.D.H.	MB Size	5.25 Ext./Int.	3.5 Ext./Int.	Watt P.S.
650	$92	7.1x16.6x15	B	3/0	2/3	300
2JDP	$62	7.1x16.1x15	B	3/0	2/2	230
J8A	$100	7.1x16.3x15.2	B	3/0	2/3	250
900	$100	7.9x16.2x17.7	B	3/1	1/5	250
668	$105	7.8x16.9x18.3	B	4/0	1/4	250
B8A	$110	7.5x16.4x20.7	B	5/0	2/5	250
1000	$125	7.5x16.5x24.5	B/F	5/1	2/6	250
78A	$86	16.9x16.3x6.2	B	3/0	2/2	250
3JDP	$96	7.5x16.3x24.5	B/F	6/0	2/3	250
736P	$99	8.1x16.3x24.8	B/F	5/1	2/1	250
801ATX	$95	7.7x19.8x17.9	ATX	3/0	2/5	250
505ATX	$99	8.3x17x17.6	ATX	4/0	1/3	250
526ATX	$90	8.3x17x16	ATX	3/0	2/1	250
80ATX	$120	7.3x16.5x17.1	ATX	3/0	2/4	250
524ATX	$96/116	7.5x16.7x18.8	ATX	3/0	2/4	250/300
600ATX	$109	7.5x17.4x18.3	ATX	3/0	2/2	250
413ATX	$95	7.3x16.6x17.5	ATX	3/0	2/2	250
618ATX	$85	7x16.8x17	ATX	3/0	2/1	250
268ATX	$95	7.6x16.7x17	ATX	3/0	2/2	250
723ATX	$78	7.4x18.4x16.9	ATX	4/0	2/1	250
676ATX	$87	7.5x16.7x16.6	ATX	3/0	2/1	230
679ATX	$87	7.8x17x16.5	ATX	3/0	2/1	230
678ATX	$87	7.5x17.6x16.7	ATX	3/0	2/1	230
2ATX	$99/$125	7.9x17.1x23.6	X	5/0	1/5	230/300
1000ATX	$129/148	7.9x17.3x24.5	X	5/1	2/2	250/300
38ATX	$92/112	7.5x16.8x24.6	X	6/0	2/1	250/300
768ATX	$119/145	7.5x16.3x24.3	X	6/0	3/1	230/300
887	$480	11x19.8x24	B/F	4/8	0/0	400
887ATX	$446	11x19.8x24	X	4/8	0/0	300
887R/RX	$750/$800	11x19.8x24	F/X	4/8	0/0	R300
107R/RX	$510/$540	8.7x17.8x26.8	B/F	5/3	2/0	R300
021/X	$240/$250	13.5x17.8x14	B/X	4/2	0/8	300
967/X	$725/$750	14.8x23.5x24.6	F/X	12/0	1/8	300
967R/RX	$988/$1010	14.8x23.5x24.6	F/X	12/0	1/8	R300
989/X	$425/$450	14.8x21.0x16.3	F/X	8/0	2/4	300
989R/RX	$720/$740	14.8x21.0x16.3	F/X	8/0	2/4	R300
1400R/RX	$975/$995	16.3x20.5x23.8	F/X	14/0	0/0	R300

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Slide Door: Sliding front door up and down
Slide MB Cage: Motherboard tray can slide in and out from rear
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X: ATX Size Motherboard. R: Redundant Power Supply For AT Size.
RX: Redundant Power Supply for ATX Size.

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TRENDS

Y2K: It's Global, But Think Local

Concerned that the companies you depend on aren't Y2K-compliant? New Web sites let you track their progress.

After you've safeguarded your small-office or home PC from potential Y2K pitfalls, you're still not completely out of the woods. In fact, unless you live and work in complete isolation, at least some portion of your life or your business probably depends on the performance of another computer system.

Any company—a bank or a pharmacy, for instance—that uses its computers to make date-sensitive calculations is potentially at risk for a millennium meltdown. That's something that the average home-PC user doesn't really have to worry about, however. Although there may be any number of devices around your home that are not Y2K-compliant, unless the device is relied on for mission-critical, date-sensitive calculations, you've got nothing to sweat.

Instead, you might focus your millennium worries on local businesses. By now, most large American companies, as well as many international firms, are diligently tackling the problem. But according to the **National Federation for Independent Business,** as of October 1998 more than 50 percent of America's small businesses had not yet taken steps to resolve their Y2K issues.



And although this might not matter so much in a florist's shop, imagine the potential nightmare if your accountant's system fails to roll over on December 31, 1999.

One way to determine whether the businesses you depend on have taken necessary precautions is to hit a few Web sites. One such site is **Y2kR.com** (*www.y2kr.com*), a free service that consolidates and publishes the latest available information on the Y2K status of thousands of companies—primarily Fortune 500 and vital small-business concerns. The site's search engine helps you locate reports and resources that include press releases, links to company sites, and even forecasted completion dates of specific companies' Y2K remediation.

Geared toward investors, corporate decision-makers, and IT managers, the site is updated regularly to deliver up-to-date information on corporate Y2K readiness. And if you can't find what you're looking for on Y2kR.com, the site provides links to other sites with similar missions.

Its purview is limited to the private sector, however. If you want to track the progress of state and federal governments, most have their own Web sites and hotlines. For instance, the **U.S. General Accounting Office** has a Web site (*www.gao.gov*) that's designed to keep you in the loop. For updates by phone, you can call the **Federal Year 2000 Information Center** at 888-872-4925. This service provides information on government initiatives as well as on sectors such as banking, small businesses, airlines and airports, telecommunications, utility companies, and food-supply issues. It also provides information on related Web sites.

But can you be absolutely certain of a company's Y2K readiness? A recent **Securities and Exchange Commission** ruling mandated that every company issue a Y2K-compliance statement, many of which are available on Y2kR.com or on individual company Web sites. But in today's litigious society, companies are reluctant to make absolute guarantees or precise claims. As a result of potential liability issues, the compliance statements are often obfuscated with murky legalese, making it almost impossible to determine the exact state of affairs.

As the new millennium nears, sites such as Y2kR.com and the General Accounting Office's provide a valuable service—and will deliver even better information as soon as corporations release more thorough Y2K details. And the more we know, the less we have to fear.

ACTIVE LINKS

www.gao.gov/y2kr.htm.....*GAO Year 2000 Computing Crisis*
www.nfib.org.....*National Federation of Independent Business*
www.year2000.com.....*The Year 2000 Information Center*

NEWSBITS

MORE WEB FIREWORKS
Macromedia's newest version of **Fireworks** ($199), its premier Web-graphics solution, now offers enhanced editing capabilities, easy application of styles across projects, and TWAIN support.



TIBERIAN SUN RISES
If you're hooked on the blockbuster Command and Conquer game series, keep an eye out for its third installment, **Command and Conquer: Tiberian Sun** (approximately $50). It's slated for release in the spring and may be out even as you read this. ▼

WELCOME BACK, HARVARD
After a long hiatus, **Software Publishing Corp.** is bringing back its Harvard line of desktop publishing, drawing, and presentation graphics applications. **Harvard Graphics,** which faded out of the vector-illustration game several years ago, is back in full force with a brand-new version. And the new **Harvard Publisher** aims to be a contender in the desktop publishing arena.

A BRAVE NEW OFFICE SUITE
Until now, the field of office software has been dominated by **Corel Corp., Lotus Development Corp.,** and **Microsoft Corp.** But now **Ability Plus Software,** a British-based company, is throwing its hat into the ring with **Ability Office.** Like traditional office suites, Ability includes a word processor, a relational database, a spreadsheet application, and a drawing program (but no presentation application). Ability says its product is highly streamlined, tightly integrated, and far less expensive—at only $69.95—than other productivity suites. Find out how Ability stacks up against the Big Three in a future feature. —*Sharah Thomas*

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ILLUSTRATION BY TIMOTHY COOK



SQUASH THAT MILLENNIUM BUG

These five utilities can help diagnose and solve your PC's Y2K problems.

BY DAVID HASKIN

Conspiracy theorists and doomsday cults are looking mighty smug these days—and in a moment of panic, the most reasonable people might be tempted to believe the hype. Rest assured, it's unlikely that the darkest nightmares of planes falling from the sky, life savings disappearing from banks, and society as we know it being wiped out will come true.

As you read this, armies of programmers are combing through data and applications to eradicate Y2K problems in enterprises. MIS managers are making similar efforts to immunize hardware such as mainframes, LANs, and WANs. Much has been done to address the problem, but much remains to be done. So Y2K activity will very likely remain the focus throughout the year—and even into the next for low-priority issues.

ILLUSTRATION BY ERIC YANG

Unfortunately, in the midst of this frenzy, individual desktop PCs and applications are often forgotten. Desktop Y2K problems won't cause multinational corporations to crumble or the power grid to shut down, but they can result in accounting and billing errors, scheduling confusion, and a host of other difficulties. That's why PC users who rely on applications that require accurate dates, such as accounting software, databases, and spreadsheets, had better make sure that their desktop systems are Y2K-compliant.

THE DISEASE

The year 2000 story has been told many times, but it bears repeating, if only briefly. It's been a hard and costly lesson about the pitfalls of cutting corners. In the early days of the computer revolution, the millennium was far away, and computer memory was scarce. As a result, developers created hardware and software that used simple six-digit dates, such as yy/mm/dd. This scheme saved memory and eased data input, but it unfortunately provided no way to move from the year 1999 to the year 2000. As a result, the date May 10, 2004, will be understood as May 10, 1904. The simple solution would have been to use eight-digit dates, such as yyyy/mm/dd, but—well, hindsight is 20/20. (Note: The year 2000 is not technically the turn of the millennium, but for our purposes, we will refer to them interchangeably.)

In the last year or two, vendors have fixed Y2K problems largely in new software and hardware, but the problem still exists in older versions. In hardware, the problem is in the PC's BIOS. The BIOS controls the computer's system clock, which many applications use to add dates to data files. Solving this problem is complex because it varies among systems. Some noncompliant systems will roll over properly to the new millennium, but only if they are on at midnight on January 1, 2000. Other older systems will roll the date back to 1900, and others to 1980.

If your PC's applications aren't Y2K-compliant, they will incorrectly read and write dates in your data files. This may sound simple, but it can wreak havoc on your daily life. In moment-to-moment operation, you probably won't notice—until your invoices are wildly inaccurate or your PC scheduling program misses an important appointment. Again, this is a complex problem. If your system is Y2K-compliant, but you created files with noncompliant programs, chances are that the data file is noncompliant. Even if your data files are Y2K-compliant, you'll have problems if you share them with people using noncompliant systems. The result is that many computers—even newer ones—are a mix of compliant and noncompliant components.

THE CURE

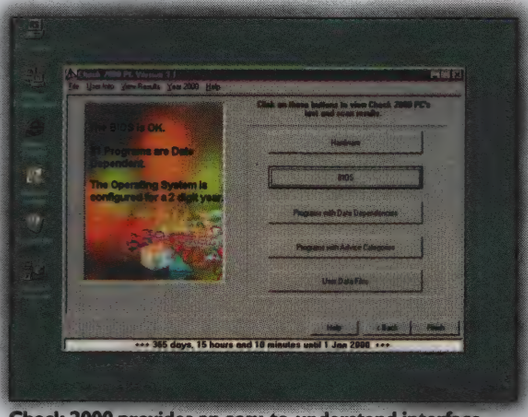
Y2K software utilities cut through the uncertainty. Most of them test your BIOS to see how it responds to the millennial date change. They also consult knowledge bases of information to determine whether the specific versions of your applications are Y2K-compliant, and they examine your data files for date-related problems. All programs then suggest ways you can fix the problems, and some actually fix (or in Y2K parlance, "remediate") them for you.

Numerous software solutions have appeared whose sole purpose is to help PC users solve desktop Y2K problems before they occur. Of those, we'll evaluate five: Greenwich Mean Time-UTA's Check 2000 PC Deluxe, Intelliquis' Fix2000, Symantec Corp.'s Norton 2000, About Time Group's PCfix 2000, and Network Associates' 2000 ToolBox. These programs help pinpoint Y2K problems in your hardware, applications, and data files.

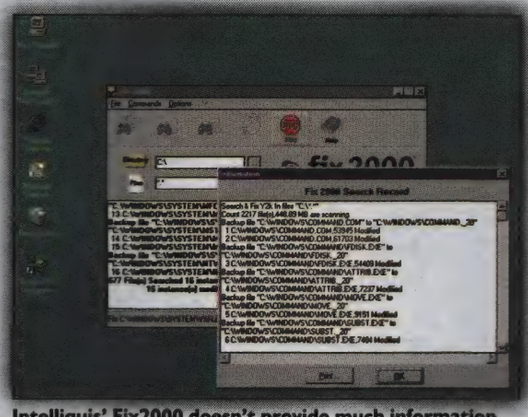
CHECK 2000 PC DELUXE

Check 2000 PC Deluxe is a comprehensive, helpful program that is easy to use. It consists of two separate wizard-driven Windows applications. A client program examines hardware, the BIOS, applications, and the operating system, and outputs an overview of the status of each. Meanwhile, the Data Scanner does a meticulous check of your data files.

The client's wizard enables you to select precisely which elements you want the program to inspect—for example, the operating system and the BIOS. When it finishes, it displays a simple dialog box that summarizes problems, and it also has buttons on which you can click to view more details. It then directs you to the proper Windows dialog for fixing the problem. During our evaluation, the initial tests were reasonably thorough—for instance, the program correctly noted that the Windows 95 date was set for two-digit years. Clicking on buttons for additional information about programs and applications displays a spreadsheet-like window. If you double-click on a cell that describes a specific problem, it displays a window with more information about that problem.



Check 2000 provides an easy-to-understand interface and lots of useful information about fixing Y2K problems.



Intelliquis' Fix2000 doesn't provide much information about what it's fixing or how it fixed it.

This additional information is clear and concise, with an often decidedly practical bent. On our tests, for instance, after finding Lotus 1-2-3 spreadsheet files with date problems, Check 2000 noted that fixing all files might take a very long time. It concluded, "We suggest you prioritize which data files need to be fixed, and which you can discard." This program also has a help system devoted to explaining the Y2K problem and how it can impact your data. It even comes with a video to help you strategize how to solve the problem.

If the Check 2000 PC Deluxe client finds a BIOS problem, it automatically installs a DOS-level program to fix it so your PC's clock rolls over correctly to the new millennium. Beyond that, Check 2000 PC Deluxe's client lives up to its name by checking, but not fixing, other problems.

The program's Data Scanner is much more specific than its client, scanning each database field and spreadsheet cell in the files you select. This program, too, is wizard-based and has an impressive number of options you can select from. For instance, besides setting which years you want it to check for, it has a setting that instructs the program to ignore ZIP codes. You can even have it check for specific or customized date formats and search within formulas and spreadsheet macros as well as Visual Basic programs.

Data Scanner displays extremely specific results, such as listing the date format used in a cell or record, and the likelihood that the item will fail after the millennium. You then can copy the results to the Windows clipboard and paste them into a spreadsheet for more analysis and tracking.

Check 2000 PC Deluxe is a good choice for both neophyte and advanced users. While it doesn't actually correct most problems, it is very simple to use and provides a lot of detail that can help you become Y2K-compliant.

FIX2000

Like the other utilities in this roundup, Intelliquis' Fix2000 scans for BIOS problems, and if it finds any, automatically loads a memory-resident program to fix the problem when the millennium changes. In this case, it does so with a special utility loaded from a DOS boot disk that comes with the product.

Beyond that, though, this program charts a different course from the others. For one thing, Fix2000 doesn't scan data files for problems. Nor does it compare the programs it finds on your hard drive to its own informational database about compliant programs. Rather, Fix2000 looks for noncompliant applications by scanning the machine-language codes (literally the 0s and 1s of the code as it executes) for noncompliant date handling. The program then keeps a log of the specific problem, and every time a program you are using invokes a noncompliant date, it intercepts that program code and replaces it with a correctly formatted four-digit date. It makes copies of all the application files it handles in this way, so by clicking a toolbar button, you can always restore your system to its original state.

We had no problems with the fixes, although the vendor acknowledges that sometimes old DOS files do not work. Even when that occurs, the spokesperson says, you can easily stop Fix2000 from working simply by removing or commenting out a line in the CONFIG.SYS file that starts Fix2000. This automatically reverts the system to its original state, as does clicking the Undo button on the toolbar.

We sometimes found Fix2000 frustrating to use. For one thing, you can set very few options. Handily, one of those options is to set a range of dates for which the program will search, which saves time because not all dates will be a problem. For instance, depending on the file, the year "91" is unlikely to refer to 2091, but more likely refers to 1991. You also can select file types and directories to search, but a spokesperson for the company said that even if you selected data files, it wouldn't flag or fix them.

As it's scanning, Fix2000 doesn't provide much information. It tells you the name of the noncompliant file, but not the program, which many users will find confusing. For example, during the Fix phase, when it finds a problem, it might ask the cryptic question, "File in file C:\COMMAND.COM at position 53945. Do you want to modify now?" Also, Fix2000 doesn't work quickly—it took about an hour to scan a half-gigabyte of files and data on 233MHz Pentium-class computer.

Though we ran into no problems during our tests, changing program files as they execute, including files associated with your operating system, is likely to make many technical users uneasy. Still, if this process does not worry you, Fix2000 is the only program we found that fixes your programs to become Y2K-compliant.

Best Buy APRIL 1999

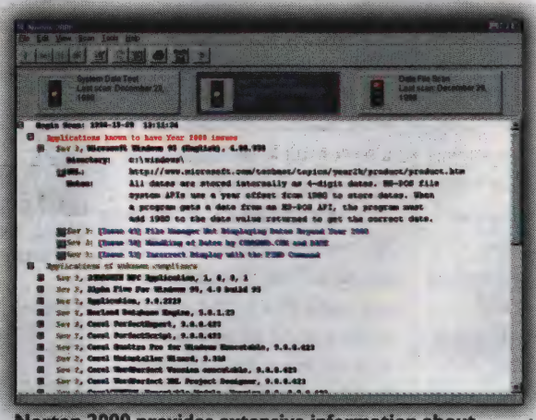
Norton 2000 addresses your Y2K concerns with an impressive blend of simplicity and power. Its $49.95 price is little to pay for peace of mind.

NORTON 2000

Easy on the eyes and simple to use, Norton 2000 thoroughly examines your BIOS, applications, and data files. If necessary, it can install a DOS memory-resident utility that will fix the millennium roll-over problem when it occurs. It also provides lots of guidance for the best ways to repair Y2K data and application problems, although it doesn't actually fix them.

Norton 2000 consists of two programs, a DOS application for examining and fixing your BIOS, and a Windows program that examines applications and data files. In Windows, a wizard walks you though the process of examining the operating system, applications, and data files. The resulting report describes all problems and assigns a level of risk that the problem poses to your data on a scale of one to five, one being the least severe.

If it finds problems with your operating system, you can click on a button in the main window for help fixing it manually. For date-related issues in Windows, you can click on a button to change a setting. For instance, Norton 2000 found that the Windows 95 date format on one of our test systems used only two digits. Clicking on a button took us directly to the Regional Settings dialog box where we could change this.



Norton 2000 provides extensive information about potential problems, even rating their severity.

If an application has well-known Y2K problems (like older versions of Microsoft Excel or Lotus 1-2-3), Norton 2000 describes those problems precisely and provides a link to the appropriate vendor's Web page that handles Y2K issues. It also lists workarounds and solutions, such as downloading a specific file from a specific vendor's Web address. If Norton 2000 has no information about the application, it provides a link to a Web site that contains an up-to-date listing of widely available products and their Y2K status.

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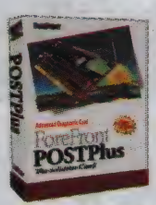
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FSC

Besides assigning a level of risk to each potential problem, Norton 2000 also, by default, alerts you when it finds so-called cusp dates in your applications. These are correctly entered dates from earlier in the 20th century, such as a date of birth of 1930. These dates may show up correctly in one version of an application but may show up as 2030 in a newer, more Y2K-aware version. You can set which dates the program should consider the cusp date.

Norton 2000 won't fix Excel spreadsheets, but it does the next best thing. It copies Excel 5.0 or later files into a special subdirectory, then color-codes cells with potential date problems so you can quickly make corrections yourself. The color-coding denotes the severity of the problems. It also adds notes to each coded cell that describe the problem and how to fix it.

The other Norton 2000 utility, BIOS Test, runs from a DOS boot disk, examining the PC's real-time clock, alerting you of problems, and suggesting fixes. It can load a BIOS-fix utility automatically from the CONFIG.SYS file that will fix the problem when the millennium changes.

A few of the explanations of problems in Norton 2000 were unclear. For example, one explanation read, "Since the date in the database can safely express years from 0000-9999, the year 2000 problem to be remediated is in the manner in which the date was first interpreted and stored in the database."

However, Norton 2000 is overall easy to use and extremely thorough. It takes a hands-off approach to actually fixing problems, but it provides all the information you'll need to efficiently fix them yourself.

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PCFIX 2000

PCfix 2000 is different from any other product in this roundup. Instead of simply patching Y2K time problems in hardware as the other programs do, PCfix 2000 tries to repair them—permanently. The program doesn't attempt to deal with noncompliant applications and data files.

Using PCfix 2000 is an exercise in brevity. You install it from a single floppy disk, reboot, and by the time you see its Windows splash screen, the program has already done its work and unloaded itself. It works by loading a small program when you start your computer that examines the system time according to the BIOS, determining whether it is Y2K-compliant. If the date isn't formatted correctly, PCfix 2000 makes the correction in the BIOS and on the PC's CMOS chip, where dates are stored. It then passes the correctly formatted date to the operating system.



PCfix 2000 does all its work fixing the clock problem before Windows loads.

After doing its work, PCfix 2000 unloads itself from memory before Windows starts to load—the splash screen that appears simply tells you that the process has completed successfully. Thereafter, if your applications get their date from the operating system—as the overwhelming majority of programs do—the date will be Y2K-compliant.

By contrast, the other utilities in this roundup that fix the BIOS time problem load terminate-and-stay-resident (TSR) programs in DOS every time you start your computer. As TSR programs, they use memory and can cause malfunctions, although we ran into no such problems in our tests. They work by changing the date to the correct format only after the century changes—they won't help you enter dates correctly in the meantime, as PCfix 2000 does. After loading Windows, you can choose to load a PCfix 2000 interface, but it's merely a small window that tells you everything is working fine and imparts a bit more information about the company.

We found only two problems. First, PCfix 2000 installs itself whether you need it or not—it doesn't check first to see if your system clock is Y2K-compliant. If you want it to do that, the vendor sells a simple utility that does so for an additional $15. Second, after you install PCfix 2000, it is nearly impossible to remove. Besides loading from CONFIG.SYS and AUTOEXEC.BAT, it also automatically loads from a hidden location on your hard drive. That means that even if you remove the sections of CONFIG.SYS and AUTOEXEC.BAT that launch the program, it will load anyway. If you don't want the program to load, you must call tech support and get details about how to remove it.

In our tests, the program operated as advertised on our two test PCs that had BIOS date problems. Of course, you'll still need another utility to examine and help you fix noncompliant applications and data files. But PCfix 2000 has the simplest and

(continued on page 372)

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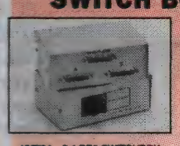
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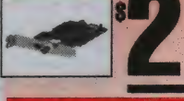
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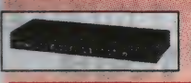
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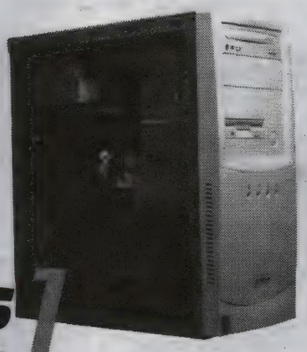
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Squash That Millennium Bug

(continued from page 368)

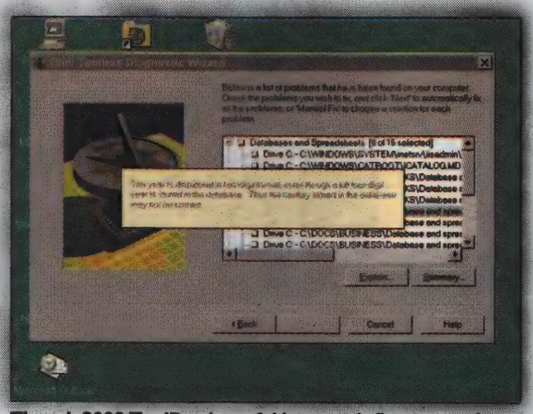
most effective fix to the Y2K clock problem we've seen, and it makes sure that any data you add between now and the millennium will be Y2K-compliant.

2000 TOOLBOX

Though 2000 ToolBox provides less useful information about how to fix Y2K problems than some products in the roundup, it does take a more hands-on approach, repairing date-related problems in spreadsheet files. It also comes with a handful of utilities that, while not directly related to Y2K, may prove useful.

ToolBox's main user interface is a wizard in which you select which elements you want the program to examine, such as BIOS or data files. You can also fine-tune preferences for each item such as setting exactly which dates to look out for.

Beyond this simple interface, 2000 ToolBox has its difficulties. Initially, it crashed on all three of our test systems. After Network Associates sent a patch to repair the problem (the company says that retail products now work properly), it still crashed twice during the testing process. In both cases, it crashed after it had switched the system clock to January 1, 2000, but before it switched the clock back to the current date. After rebooting, our PC showed the current date as January 1, 2000, requiring us to reset the time in the Windows control panel. In the interim, however, our PIM, thinking it was the year 2000, set off all appointment alarms for the year 1999.



Though 2000 ToolBox is useful because it fixes some data problems, the other information it provides is often vague.

As with all the other programs in this roundup except PCfix 2000, if the BIOS check finds Y2K clock problems, 2000 ToolBox rewrites your CONFIG.SYS file to automatically load a DOS utility that will properly roll over the date. It also lists all potential problems in applications and files. However, its explanations of the problems were imprecise, such as, "This is an application for which there are year 2000 issues."

After it finds problems within an application, the interface lets you select one, click on a button, and fix it. But this is misleading, because 2000 ToolBox only fixes spreadsheets created by Lotus 97 or any version of Microsoft Excel. For other applications and databases, selecting this option merely displays information about how you can fix the problems manually. Even this information is sketchy—for one noncompliant application, it merely stated, "Make sure you have the latest version available."

Besides checking whether applications and data files are compliant, 2000 ToolBox also scans your system for Y2K-related viruses, a few of which have been reported. It also optionally installs programs to monitor your system resources and to create a rescue disk. None of those utilities is directly relevant to solving Y2K problems, but they may prove useful.

Although it is light on the information and explanations it provides, 2000 ToolBox does a thorough job of fixing spreadsheets. Because of its limited scope, however, you might want to use it in conjunction with another program.

PRODUCT Check 2000 PC Deluxe
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Arlington, VA; 800-216-5545, 703-522-6454
www.gmt-uta.com
REQUIRES 486 or faster; 16MB RAM; 20MB hard drive space; Windows 95 or later
MFR. EST. PRICE $59.95

PRODUCT Fix2000
COMPANY Intelliquis
Draper, UT; 800-400-5203, 801-990-2600
www.intelliquis.com
REQUIRES 10MB hard drive space; DOS 3.x or later; Windows 3.1 or later
MFR. EST. PRICE $49.95

PRODUCT Norton 2000
COMPANY Symantec Corp.
Cupertino, CA; 800-441-7234, 541-334-6054
www.symantec.com
Best Buy
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MFR. EST. PRICE $49.95

PRODUCT PCfix 2000
COMPANY About Time Group
Atlanta, GA; 888-558-2660, 404-255-2660
www.pcfix2000.com
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LIST PRICE $74.95

PRODUCT 2000 ToolBox
COMPANY Network Associates
McAfee Software Division
Santa Clara, CA; 800-332-9966
www.nai.com
REQUIRES 8MB RAM; 15MB hard drive space; Windows 95 or later
MFR. EST. PRICE $29.95

financial projections, but don't address year 2000 issues. The utilities reviewed here are inexpensive and easy to use, and will help you solve the Y2K riddle.

Norton 2000 provided the best combination of detail and ease of use. It includes a TSR utility that makes sure your PC's date rolls over correctly at the millennium. Also impressive is Check 2000 PC Deluxe. Easy to use, it provides a comprehensive overview of your system, applications, and files. PCfix 2000 doesn't help you solve problems with your applications and data files, but it uniquely and effectively solves the clock problem. Network Associates' 2000 ToolBox has a utility to solve the clock problem, and it can fix Y2K problems in spreadsheets, but it is not a comprehensive tool for solving other application and data-file problems. Finally, Fix2000 provides few controls and little information about fixing problems—but it does fix noncompliant programs.

So if you haven't already done it, now's the time to fix your PC's Y2K problems. Don't wait until the last minute—December 31, 1999, 11:59 p.m.—to do it. ▼

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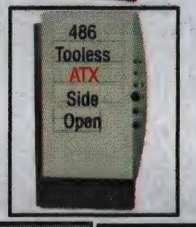
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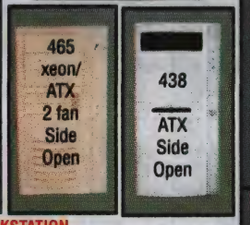


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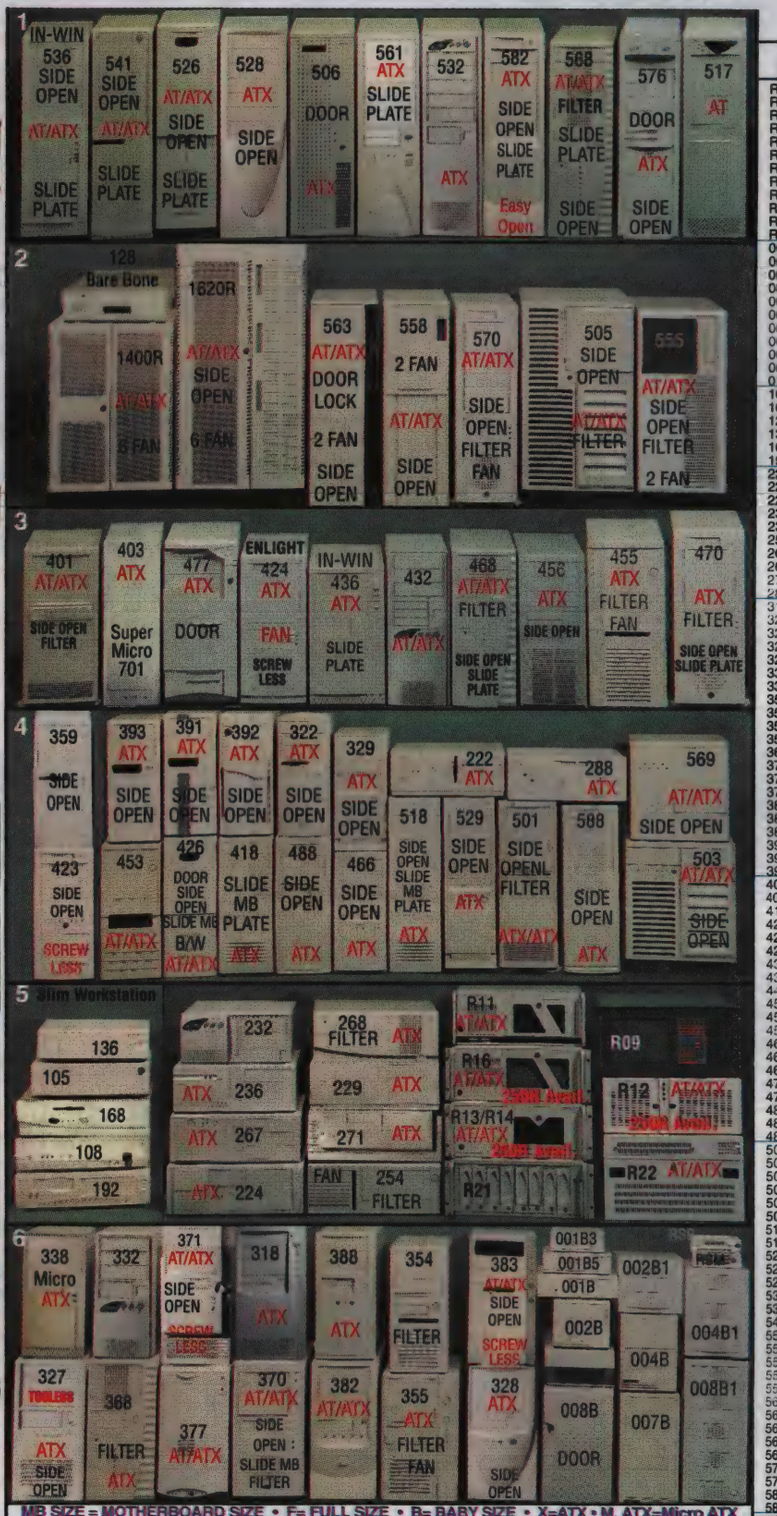
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001B	80	10x11.5x3		1/0		60W
001B3	80	6.7x9.8x2.4			1/0	50W
001B5	65	8.3x10.6x2.8		1/0		50W
002B	100	6.9x14.6x5.8		2/0		60W
002B1	85	7.5x11.2x6.5		2/0		80W
004B	125	6.8x15.3x9.3		4/0		230W
004B1	105	7.5x17.3x10.2		4/0		200W
007B	215	7x15.8x13		7/0		250W
008B	285	8.4x20.2x18.3		8/0		300W
008B1	180	7.5x17.9x17.1		8/0		250W
010B	375/450	10x19.5x24		10		300W/400W
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108NLX bare	310/400 II	11x13.6x3.4	NLX	1/0	1/1	135W
128 bare	180	14.8x16.5x4.75	LPX	1/0	1/2	150W
136/I	85/96	11.8x13.5x3	AIO	0/0	1/1	80W
168	90	15.25x14.5x3.5	NLX	1/0	1/1	145W
192	90	13.1x16.5x3.5	LPX	1/0	1/1	150W
222	85	16.5x16.3x6.4	ATX	3/0	1/2	230X
224	90	17.4x18.8x6.1	ATX	3/0	2/2	230X
229	85	16.5x16.3x6.4	ATX	3/0	1/2	230X
232	65	14.3x16.5x7	F	3/0	1/1	230W
236X	90	17.5x17.8x6	ATX	2/1	2/1	230X
254	90	17x16.3x6.3	B	3/0	2/2	250W
267	90	16.8x16.8x6.2	ATX	2/0	2/1	250X
268	90	16.3x16.8x6.8	ATX	3/0	1/2	250X
271	90	17.3x15.4x15	ATX	2/0	1/1	250XB
288	90	16.1x16.1x6	ATX	3/0	2/1	230X
318	85	8.5x18.3x16.7	ATX	3/0	2/1	230X
322	85	7.5x16.8x16.5	ATX	3/0	1/2	230X
327	85	7.5x16.5x17.3	ATX	3/0	2/2	230X
328	85	7.5x17.6x16.7	ATX	3/0	2/1	230X
329	85	7.5x16.8x16.5	ATX	3/0	2/1	230X
332	55	7x16.3x14.3	B	3/0	2/1	230W
338	55	7x14.6x13.8	M. ATX	2/0	2/1	145W
354	100	7x16.5x15.3	B	3/0	2/3	250W
355	100	9.5x16.6x15.2	ATX	3/0	2/1	230X
358	90	9.5x16.6x16	ATX	3/0	1/3	230X
359	90	7.05x16.8x16.9	ATX	3/0	1/3	230X
368	90	7.8x16.5x15.1	ATX	3/0	2/2	250X
370	95	8.3x17.3x16.1	ATX	3/0	2/2	250WB
371	95	8.1x17.2x16.25	ATX	3/0	1/3	250XB
377	90	8.5x18.5x15.5	ATX	3/0	1/2	250X
382	85	7.9x16.7x16.3	ATX	3/0	2/1	250X
383	90	8.3x16.8x16.1	ATX	3/0	1/3	230X
388	90	7.8x16.7x16.3	ATX	3/0	2/1	230X
391	90	7.5x17x17.2	ATX	3/0	1/3	230X
392	90	7.5x17x17.2	ATX	3/0	1/3	230X
393	90	7.5x17x17.2	ATX	3/0	1/3	230X
401X	115	8.5x17.3x18	ATX	2/0	2/2	250X
403	105	7.75x17x19.4	ATX	3/0	2/2	250X
418	85	7.5x16.8x19.3	ATX	3/0	3/1	230X
423	70	7.7x16.6x18.1	B	4/0	1/4	250W
424	70	7.5x18.9x16.7	ATX	4/0	2/1	230X
426B/W	90	7.5x17.5x19.3	ATX	3/0	2/2	250X
432	65	6.8x15.8x18.5	F	3/0	3/0	250W
436	70/95	8.6x18x15.6	ATX	3/0	2/2	230/300X
446	100	6.8x17.1x19.1	ATX	3/0	1/3	250X
453B/W/X	105	8.5x17.5x18.5	ATX	4/0	1/4	250X
455	110	8.5x17.5x18.6	ATX	4/0	2/3	250X
456	95	7.5x17.8x17	ATX	3/0	2/3	230X
465	205	9.3x17x17.2	XEON/ATX	2/0	2/2	300x
466	95	7.4x18.7x16.8	ATX	3/0	2/3	250X
468	95/115	7.5x16.7x18.8	ATX	3/0	2/4	250X/300X
470	110	8.3x17.3x21.3	ATX	4/0	1/2	250XB
477	105	8.5x17.5x18.6	ATX	4/0	1/4	250X
483	100	8.3x18.8x17.3	ATX	4/0	1/3	250X
486	100	9.6x19.5x17	ATX	4/0	2/1	250WX
488	95	7.75x16.7x19.1	ATX	3/0	2/2	250X
501	200	8.25x17.2x23.8	ATX	4/0	2/4	300X
503R/RX	720/740	14.8x20.4x18.4	F/ATX	8/0	2/4	300R/RX
503/X	415/440	14.8x20.4x18.4	F/ATX	8/0	2/4	300W/300X
505/X	715/740	14.6x23x26.8	F/ATX	12/0	1/8	300W/WX
505R/RX	980/1010	14.6x23x26.8	F/ATX	12/0	1/8	300R/RX
506X/RX	170/530	7.8x16.5x24.4	ATX	6/0	2/2	300X/300RX
517	95	8x16.4x24.8	F	5/1	2/1	250W
518	115/140	7.5x16.6x24.4	ATX	6/0	3/1	230X/300X
526B/W	125/145	7.5x17.5x24.5	ATX	6/0	1/4	250X/300X
528	120/140	7.5x16.5x24.8	ATX	6/0	1/5	250X/300X
529	120/140	7.5x16.8x24.4	ATX	6/0	1/5	250X/300X
532	100	7.5x16.6x24.4	ATX	5/1	2/1	250X
536X	95/115	7.8x17x24	ATX	5/0	1/5	250X/300X
541X	120/140	7.5x16.6x25.2	ATX	6/0	1/5	250X/300X
553XB/W	125/145	7.5x17.5x24.3	ATX	4/0	1/4	250X/300X
555B W R	470/740	11x19.3x23.6	F	4/8	0/0	400W/300R
555X/RX	440/800	11x19.3x23.6	ATX	4/8	0/0	300X/300RX
558 B/W/R	170/500	8.7x17.8x26.8	F	5/3	2/0	300W/300R
558X RX	180/530	8.7x17.8x26.8	ATX	5/3	2/0	300X/300RX
561	85/105	7.5x16.8x24.7	ATX	6/0	2/2	250X
563/RB/W	170/500	8.7x17.9x26.8	F	10/0		300W/300R
563X/RB/W	180/530	8.7x17.9x26.8	ATX	10/0		300X/300RX
568	120/140	7.5x17x22.8	ATX	5/0	2/4	250X/300X
569/X	230/250	13.5x17.8x14	B/ATX	4/2	0/8	300W/300X
570X/RX	165/530	8.3x17.3x26.4	ATX	7/1	1/2	300X/300RX
576X	125/145	7.5x17.9x24.4	ATX	5/1	2/2	250X/300X
582	120/140	7.8x16.5x23.2	ATX	5/0	1/7	250X/300X
588	120/140	7.8x16.5x23.3	ATX	5/0	1/3	250X/300X
1400R/RX	870/990	16x20x24	F/ATX	14/0		300RX
1620R/RX	1070/1190	16.5x20.3x34.3	F/ATXx2	16/0		300RX

VIDEOSTUDIO 3.0

Video Editing 101

COMPANY .....Ulead Systems
Torrance, CA; 800-858-5323, 310-523-9393
www.ulead.com
PRODUCT .....VideoStudio 3.0
SUPPORT .....Live toll-free phone support, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays (PT)
SUITABILITY ...A great choice for users new to desktop video editing. Although a fairly powerful tool, may be too simplistic for video professionals
REQUIRES .....Pentium (MMX recommended); 32MB RAM (64MB recommended); 80MB hard drive space; video-capture card and sound card recommended; Windows 95, Windows 98, or Windows NT 4.0
MFR. EST. PRICE $99

The inspiration behind Ulead Systems' VideoStudio 3.0 was to create a low-cost consumer-level video-editing program that uses much of the same technology as the company's professional editing package, MediaStudio Pro. We'd call it a success; VideoStudio offers all the editing basics, as well as a few advanced features.

You start by creating a new project, and capturing a video clip using a video-capture device or by importing a clip you've already captured. The clip is then stored in the Image Library, a collection of thumbnail icons you insert into your video by dragging and dropping. Next comes the Storyboard process, in which you edit your clips to the desired length and arrange them in sequence by dragging them to a row of thumbnails.

In the Effects stage, you add transition effects that control scene changes, such as a crossfade, where the end of one scene fades out as the beginning of the next fades in. VideoStudio includes an assortment of more than 60 effects, and each comes with controls for modifying the effect's speed, direction, and border.

The next three steps, Title, Voice, and Music, switch you into a timeline view of the project, with separate tracks for the video, superimposed titles, narration, and background music. The Title module has a number of advanced features, such as animation controls for moving the titles on- and offscreen—although it lacks outlines and shadows for the lettering. The Voice and Music modules let you record from a microphone or a music CD, and insert the recordings into your video, replete with fade-ins and-outs. The final step, Finish, lets you save your movie as a file, turn it into an electronic greeting card, send it off by e-mail, or place it on a Web page.

Despite Ulead's attempts to simplify the editing process, the interface remains clumsy in spots. For example, when you change the start and end points of a clip, you need to hold down the Shift key when you press Play to view your changes. Similarly, when you change title settings, you must press the Apply button or risk losing your changes.

As distracting as these inconsistencies can be, they don't detract from the program's overall functionality. In our hands-on testing, VideoStudio provided much of the power of professional editing programs, but an easier format for novices to handle.

—Sheldon Leemon



To arrange clips, drag them from the Image Library (right) to the timeline in the Storyboard module.

SECTION CONTINUES ON PAGE 378

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Epson Stylus Color 400/600	16	12	78.00
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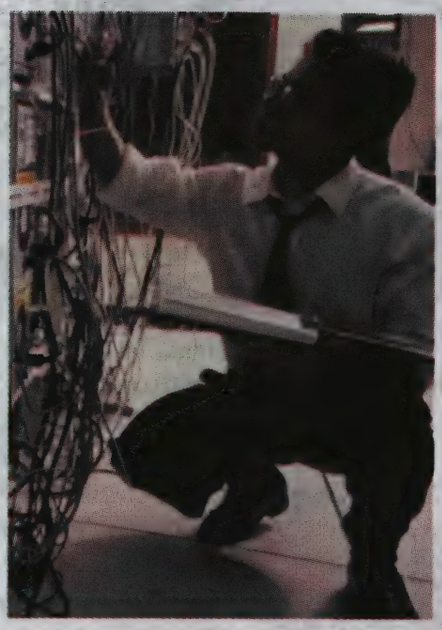
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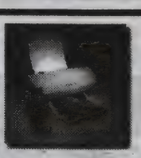


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WEB BUDDY 2.0

Taming the Wild Web

If you use data gathered from the Web for distribution or inclusion in presentations, it's probably easier and less costly to browse sites offline. However, when saving pages to disk, your browser can capture images, but not the file structure used by HTML.

To address this problem, DataViz has released Web Buddy 2.0, which downloads Web sites to your local drives for offline viewing. Although similar products are available, most don't replicate the sites as HTML, but simply record them for later playback. This means you can't customize saved sites, use them in standard browsers, or convert them for use in other applications. Web Buddy is successful at all three of these tasks.

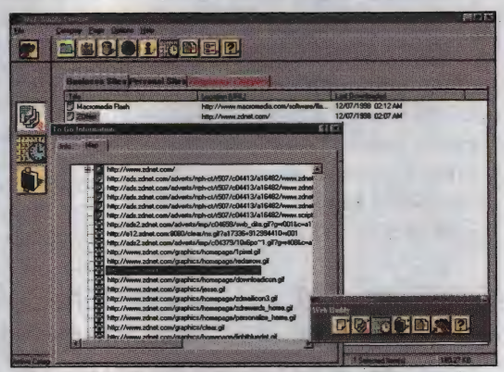
Web Buddy's interface is quirky though amusing, and similar to that of the HTML editor HotDog. A dog wearing shades stares out at you from most screens and provides sound cues for events, such as completing a download. This gentle sense of humor is indicative of the software's user-friendly approach.

The program's toolbar can float or stay docked on your desktop, and is ready to capture a single page or an entire site at the click of a button. As you browse, you can immediately capture the displayed page or site, or schedule a download for later. You can also select how many levels deep you want to capture and whether to maintain the original directory structure. To make sure you capture the information you need, you can set Web Buddy to follow external links or place warnings on them, which indicates links to pages that haven't been included in the offline copy. Another toolbar button lets you bookmark currently displayed pages.

Downloaded sites and bookmarks are handled through Web Buddy Central, a manager that lets you categorize your data and convert it to many popular word processor formats. This feature lets you print, document, or pull Web sites into a presentation program. We experienced some problems when we tried to download pages with advanced multimedia elements, such as Macromedia Flash and some Java code. But we have yet to find a tool that can adequately handle these types of files—and DataViz doesn't make any such claims for Web Buddy.

Overall, Web Buddy simplifies a task that many competitors have made more complex than it needs to be. We found it useful, handy, and cost-effective. But don't take our word for it—try it yourself by downloading the free 15-day trial version from DataViz's Web site.

—Jim Freund



Web Buddy displays all the captured elements of your downloaded pages and saves them as HTML.

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GOBACK 2.1

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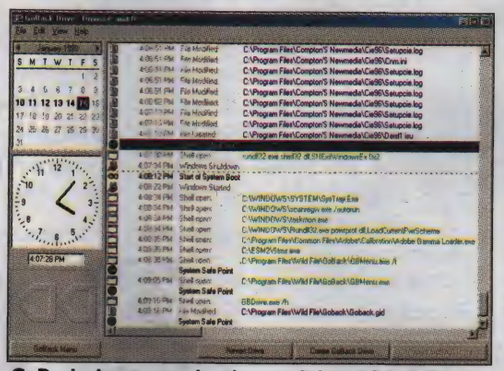
Like fellow newcomer ReSet2000 (see the March review "Resolve Crashes in No Time With *ReSet2000,*" p. 366), Wild File's GoBack 2.1 is based on the premise that when you run into problems with your PC, your system can be quickly returned to an earlier working state. GoBack's interpretation of this vision is even more ambitious and comprehensive than that of ReSet2000, though not always to good effect.

GoBack records every change made on each of your hard drives—an approach that makes it easy to revert to previous versions of individual files, or to return your entire hard drive to an earlier state (what the program refers to as a "safe point"). There's one catch, however: How far back you can go depends on how much data you've written. By default, GoBack annexes 10 percent of the capacity of each of your hard drives for its data storage.

A bigger problem might result from the software's intrusive nature. During our evaluation, GoBack contributed, at least in part, to creating precisely the problem it was designed to defeat. After defragmenting our system's hard drive, instructing GoBack to revert to the last safe point, and aborting the operation when asked for confirmation, our system locked up upon rebooting. Each time we started Windows afterward, the system froze. When we tried to revert to an earlier state from GoBack's DOS-mode menu, the program reported that no safe points existed and issued an error message when we tried to disable it.

Solving this problem turned out to be fairly easy once we reached technical support, which was a challenge in itself, partly because the primary tech-support person was out of the office on the day we called. (Wild File assured us that three new tech-support representatives were currently in training.)

GoBack's design leads to other limitations as well. You must disable the utility before using FDISK or a partition manager, and you can't use GoBack with compressed drives, boot managers, or drives that require a device driver to be recognized, such as SCSI drives with some SCSI host adapters. Also, this version doesn't run properly under DOS, Windows 3.x, or Windows NT. Moreover, GoBack caused Windows 98's "restart in MS-DOS mode" option to malfunction—although this reportedly isn't a problem with Windows 95. (Note that, despite being numbered 2.1, the version we tested was the initial release.)



GoBack shows you the time and date of the latest modified files should you need to go back.

COMPANY .....Wild File
Plymouth, MN; 888-945-3345, 612-551-0881
www.goback.com
PRODUCT .....GoBack 2.1
SUPPORT .....Live toll-free phone support, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays (CT) for 90 days after purchase; 30-day money-back guarantee
SUITABILITY .....Uses a solid concept for system recovery but is too unstable for all but the most advanced PC users
REQUIRES .....486 or faster; 16MB RAM; one-tenth the amount of drive space for every hard drive monitored; Windows 95 or Windows 98
DIRECT PRICE $69.95

The idea behind GoBack is intriguing, but even at $69.95 direct, this original version might involve more risk than many buyers are willing to assume—particularly in a utility that's intended to keep you out of trouble. We'd recommend giving GoBack a little more time to mature.

—Mitt Jones

LOTUS FASTSITE 2.0

The Easy Path to the Web

Many non-Internet applications, such as word processing, spreadsheet, and graphics programs, offer the ability to convert files to HTML—with results that can vary from acceptable to incomprehensible. But Lotus Development Corp.'s FastSite 2.0 seeks to make HTML conversion more reliable—and with uniformly good results. Although the program's forte is working with Microsoft Office and Lotus SmartSuite files, it can also handle Corel WordPerfect files and a range of graphics file formats. In addition, FastSite saves time by performing batch conversions of files from cross-product applications and provides a quick way to create a new site from the converted files.

The program's uncluttered interface is easy to navigate. The left side of the screen presents a hierarchical view of your Web site, and the right side provides two tabs for selecting tasks or previewing Web pages. You start by choosing the files you want to convert to HTML, either as part of an existing FastSite project or to be used in a new one. If you're converting document files from SmartSuite or Microsoft Office, use the SmartSuite/Office HTML option, which offers a higher degree of accuracy in conversion. For all other file types, use Verity HTML, which is editable and viewable in any browser.

Once you've selected your files, choose one of 34 predesigned templates. Complete the process by highlighting the pages to be converted, and the program automatically converts the formats it recognizes. For unrecognizable formats, FastSite creates a hyperlink on your site to the file. When visitors click on the link, FastSite launches the application associated with the file or prompts the user to load it if the application isn't found.

In our testing, FastSite successfully recognized and converted a wide variety of files, including Excel, Word, WordPerfect, and GIF files. Unrecognized files (such as our QuarkXPress document), were given an appropriate hyperlink.

Once you've converted the Web pages, FastSite lets you post them to your site. The program can also detect updates of files previously posted using FastSite and prompts you to replace them.



Lotus FastSite 2.0 offers more than 30 predesigned templates for quick and easy Web-site creation.

COMPANY .....Lotus Development Corp.
Cambridge, MA; 800-343-5414, 617-577-8500
www.lotus.com
PRODUCT .....Lotus FastSite 2.0
SUPPORT .....Live phone support, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. weekdays (ET); unconditional 30-day money-back guarantee; Web; FTP
SUITABILITY .....A simple tool for nontechnical users to get information from various applications onto their Web sites
REQUIRES .....Pentium or faster; 24MB RAM (32MB for Windows NT); 12MB hard drive space; Windows 95, Windows 98, or Windows NT 4.0 or later
LIST PRICE $99

The combination of file-conversion and Web-site-creation features makes FastSite somewhat limiting, however. For example, if you already have a Web site with a defined style, FastSite wouldn't be a suitable solution. Then again, these limitations are precisely what make the program so attractive to novices. Thus, if you're just looking for a trouble-free way to get files from a variety of applications onto the Web, Lotus FastSite's speed, batch-processing capabilities, and broad selection of templates will do it with ease.

—Lynn Ginsburg

KAI'S POWER TOOLS 5

Supercharge Your Images

KPT 5 may be MetaCreations' best work yet, with streamlined interfaces and 10 new special-effect filters.

BY SUSAN GLINERT

COMPANY .....MetaCreations Corp. Carpinteria, CA; 800-846-0111, 805-566-6200 www.metacreations.com
PRODUCT .....Kai's Power Tools 5
SUPPORT .....Live phone support, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays (PT)
REQUIRES .....Pentium 166 or faster; 32MB RAM; 50MB hard drive space; CD-ROM drive; Windows 95, Windows 98, or Windows NT; Adobe Photoshop 3, 4, or 5, or 100 percent compatible host
SUITABILITY .....An extensive collection of special-effect add-ons for Adobe Photoshop-compatible programs, perfect for graphics designers
LIST PRICE .....$199; $99 (upgrade from previous version)

Spicing up image editors with third-party filters isn't anything new, but MetaCreations Corp. has successfully reinvented the concept with each release of Kai's Power Tools (KPT). Its latest version (number five, for those keeping count) delivers 10 new and imaginative special-effect filters with interfaces similar to those in version 3. Although exploring the free-form interfaces has always been half the fun of KPT, many of the effects were too dependent on trial and error. In version 5, though, MetaCreations presents a streamlined set of mini-applications with precision controls, letting you generate reproducible effects.

Kai's Power Tools 5 requires a host program that supports Photoshop-compatible plug-ins. We successfully used KPT's filters within Corel PhotoPaint 8, MetaCreations Painter 5, and Adobe Photoshop 5. As with similar applications of this kind, you install KPT 5 inside a plug-in directory and access the filters from a menu within the host program.

All of version 5's filters use the same basic interface: a window comprising a central preview area, buttons for accessing preset libraries and filter options, color and gradient selection panels, and memory dots for storing your current layout and values for the effect. Each effect provides one or more floating mini-panels, where you can set additional options. The FraxPlorer, for example, lets you choose from 10 different paint styles. In expanded mode, these panels display slider controls for incrementally adjusting values. Filters that render three-dimensional objects, such as Frax4D and Orb-It, contain two additional panels. The 3-D lighting controls let you add light sources and set their position, highlight type, color, and brightness. And the Environment panel even lets you load an image to be reflected on an object's surface.

We think the most entrancing addition to the program is FraxPlorer, a revamped and much enhanced version of Fractal Explorer. You begin by choosing one of three basic fractal families, such as Mandelbrot. For each base fractal, you have three spaces to explore, like M-Polar or Julia variations. Whereas earlier versions of Fractal Explorer suffered performance problems when zooming into a fractal space, KPT 5's infinite zoom tool lets you explore details for more than an hour without experiencing any slowdown. We were especially impressed with the new coloring modes that produce breathtaking variations such as feathers, snow crystals, and sharply pointed horn patterns within the fractal.



A revamped version of Fractal Explorer, KPT 5's new FraxPlorer now allows you to zoom infinitely into a fractal space.

Fractal lovers will also enjoy Frax4D, which creates three-dimensional sculptures of fractal space. These weird and awesome solids may be wrapped with an environment map to produce sculptures with metallic or plastic surfaces. However, the Frax4D filter is the least intuitive of the bunch—mainly because it operates by creating two-dimensional representations of three-dimensional slices of four-dimensional objects, and is largely a trial-and error process.

The FraxFlame filter is a random-pattern generator similar to KPT 3's Texture Explorer. When you choose a central flame fractal, variants appear around it. Clicking a mutation moves it to the center and generates another set of variants. When you find one you like, you can zoom, move, and color it, as well as set rendering and complexity parameters. The resulting images resemble lightning, firestorms, and fireworks. The KPT Noize filter is similar to FraxFlame but generates gorgeous naturalistic patterns that look like clouds, minerals, and crumpled metal.

Web-page designers will find KPT ShapeShifter, a tool for creating beveled and texturized objects such as buttons and headline text, very useful. This filter uses masks to layer objects one on top of another. To create a button, for example, you could use a text mask over a circular selection. By defining your own bump maps; applying glows and highlights; and adding transparency, shadows, embossing, and environment maps, you can create incredible three-dimensional objects that would be tedious to produce using conventional image-editing tools.

The prize for the silliest filter is a toss-up between Orb-It and Fiber-Optix. The former creates fields of bubbles over a background image, which is nice for things like soapsuds text; the latter grows fur and hair, which can be great for fabricating fuzzy bottles and the like. Three other filters provide interesting, if less radical effects. The first, KPT Smoothie, is useful for cleaning up dirty scans by removing unwanted noise and jagged edges from line art. KPT Blurrrr, meanwhile, provides nine different blur filters, such as spin, motion, and spiral weave. The last, KPT RadWarp, simulates barrel distortion, which causes an image to appear as if you were peering through a fish-eye lens.

The CD ships with the mini-applications from KPT 3 (Gradient Designer, Interform, Spheroid Designer, and Texture Explorer) as well as a healthy assortment of single-step filters. For example, there's a neat set of effects integrated into a virtual loupe that lets you adjust the cute controls around the loupe perimeter and drag it around the image to visualize the final effect. Other single-step filters include Glass Lens, Page Curl, Twirl, Video Feedback, and Vortex Tiling. Strangely enough, these filters are not installed by the main setup program and aren't even mentioned in the documentation files. We found them by hunting around the CD-ROM until we located a folder called KPT 3, which contained the KPT 3 filters. The lack of any paper manuals is inconvenient, especially when you consider the package's $199 list price.

Still, Kai's Power Tools has no real competition. Although there are many other plug-in packages available, none of them approaches the visual impact this set provides. Anyone who extensively uses Adobe Photoshop, Corel PhotoPaint, or MetaCreations Painter will find KPT a welcome addition to these packages. ▼

Best Buy APRIL 1999

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70	$$$	600	.289	FD71	.549	MX500	.369
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780	.299			FD91	.849		
1280	.509						
1680	.729						

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695	.149	LQ2070	.329	2023	.119	740	.1799
710	.177	LQ2170	.449	3123	.115	840	.2249
712	.195	DFX5000	$$$	3124	.139	560	$$$
720	.189	DFX8000	$$$	3624	.315	560t	$$$
722	$$$	400	69	3626	.329	740i	.1349
895	.333	440	.99	3696	$$$	XEROX	
1120	.399	600	99	8410	$$$	P12	.577
1600C	.725	640	.133	8475	$$$	4512	.749
1600CM	1175	700	.169	Canon		4517	.1089
2000C	.699	740	.189	BJ30	.119	4517mp	1669
2000CN	1025	800	.129	BJC50	$$$	N17	.1199
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5SI	.1449			1060	.325	4W	92
5SI/MX	.2439			1660	.825	16N	$$$
6L	288			2080	$$$	20	$$$
6P	485					20DX	$$$
6MP	.625					10i	369
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1100AXI	.414						
Color Laser							
5	.2424						

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Color	2/$120	4/$120

Laser Toners
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OJ600	$$$	4550	.399	9000	.1939	560	.949
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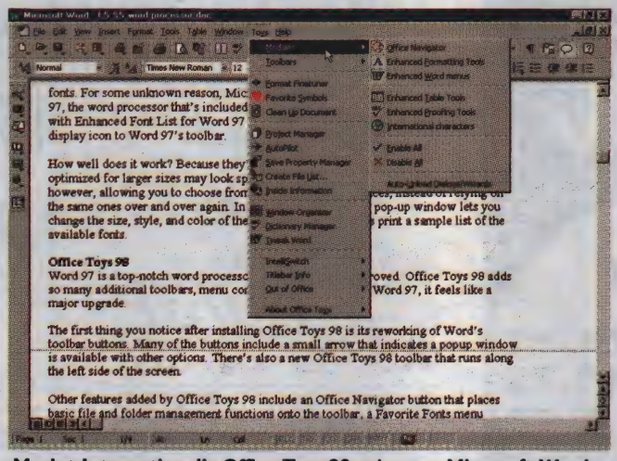
"ONE SMALL AD FOR FAIR FAX ONE GIANT SAVING FOR MANKIND"

Warm Up Your Word Processor

BY DAVID ENGLISH

Word processing is arguably one of the most common uses for personal computers; however, most of us have never customized our word processors to better suit our needs. This month, we found four different shareware programs that add handy features such as a WYSIWYG font list, an extensive dictionary and thesaurus, built-in file navigation, and easily accessible form letters for business and social correspondence. These programs not only help spice up your writing, they actually make the process easier.

You can download these programs from *Computer Shopper*'s Web site (*computershopper.com*); from the magazine's forum on ZDNet/CompuServe (*Go ZNT:COMPSHOP*) in Library 11, Shareware Shop; or directly from ZDNet's Software Library (*www.hotfiles.com*). For filenames and other details, refer to the product list box.



Merlot International's Office Toys 98 spices up Microsoft Word 97 with a bunch of new toolbars and menu selections.

ENHANCED FONT LIST FOR WORD 97

If you have more than a handful of Windows fonts, it's hard to remember what each one looks like. In Microsoft Works 95 and Microsoft Publisher 97, the toolbar's font list provides a preview of each font. Unfortunately, Microsoft didn't provide the same capability in Word 97, the word processor included in the Office 97 suite. But you can correct this deficiency with Enhanced Font List for Word 97 by Mike Craven and Woody Leonhard. This free utility adds a new font-display icon to Word 97's toolbar.

Most fonts look clear in the display, so you can quickly choose from the full range of typefaces. But since all fonts are displayed in 10-point size, those optimized for larger sizes may appear spotty or clumped together. You can preview them on-page and use the program's pop-up window to adjust the size. The same window can be used to change the style and the color, or to print a sample list of the available fonts.

OFFICE TOYS 98

Another add-on, Merlot International's Office Toys 98, brings so many additional toolbars, menu commands, and options to Word 97, it feels like a major upgrade. The first thing you'll notice after installing Office Toys 98 is its reworking of Word's toolbar buttons. Many of the buttons include a small arrow indicating the availability of a pop-up window with other options. There's also a new Office Toys 98 toolbar that runs along the left side of the screen and brings additional functionality to Microsoft Word.

Other features in Office Toys 98 include the Office Navigator button, which places basic folder- and file-management functions on the toolbar, and the Favorite Fonts menu selection, which lets you group your fonts by category. The AutoPilot feature lets you execute as many as 20 menu selections with a single command, and the Favorite Print Jobs option remembers different printer settings. There are also new proofing tools such as a dictionary editor and pop-up synonyms.

The shareware version of Office Toys 98 will work with 100 documents. After that, you'll have to pay a registration fee of $39.95.

WORDWEB

Writing effectively is hard work, and much of the difficulty arises from trying to select the exact word choice to convey your thoughts. Word processors usually have some kind of dictionary and thesaurus, but these are often limited. A useful word-finding tool such as WordWeb by Antony Lewis provides a variety of related words to help you choose precisely the right tone and nuance.

In addition to providing one or more definitions, WordWeb offers lists of synonyms, antonyms, attributions, word parts, and word types. For example, the word "computer" brings up two definitions (one related to machines and one related to people), seven synonyms (including "calculator" and "information processor system"), 25 parts (including "processor" and "floppy"), two "type of" listings (for example, "expert" and "machine"), and 17 "types" listings (including "server" and "Turing machine"). The parts, types of, types, and similar-meaning lists are especially helpful if you need to dissect a word or find its associated concepts.

The best part of the program? It's free—which WordWeb succinctly defines as "costing nothing."

WRITEEXPRESS EASY LETTERS

The best dictionary in the world isn't much help when you don't know what to write in the first place. Ever try to compose an acceptance letter for a job offer, a complaint about a billing error, a recommendation for a coworker, or a resignation letter? You have ideas about the content, but it would be much easier if you had an example in front of you.

WriteExpress Corp.'s WriteExpress Easy Letters installs directly into Microsoft Word 97 and 7.0 and Corel WordPerfect 7.0 and 8.0, and gives you instant access to 2,000 sample letters on 500 different topics. In addition to those previously mentioned, the samples include acknowledgment, apology, farewell, introduction, invitation, and thank-you letters. Many of the topics also explain expected social behavior for the particular situations.

Once the program is installed, it's fairly simple to call up a topic, find an appropriate letter, copy the letter or a relevant passage, and paste the selection into your document. The shareware version allows access only to the acceptance, compliment, and welcome categories of topics. The other topics become available on your paying a $39.95 registration fee. ▼

PRODUCT	**Enhanced Font List for Word 97**
COMPANY	Mike Craven and Woody Leonhard www.wopr.com
FILENAME	ENHFNTLS.ZIP
REGISTRATION FEE	Free

PRODUCT	**Office Toys 98**
COMPANY	Merlot International www.officetoys.com
FILENAME	WRDTOY.ZIP
REGISTRATION FEE	$39.95

PRODUCT	**WordWeb**
COMPANY	Antony Lewis www.network.demon.co.uk/wweb
FILENAME	WDWEB32.ZIP
REGISTRATION FEE	Free

PRODUCT	**WriteExpress Easy Letters**
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62419	ATX MID TOWER CASE 235W	$69.99
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EUROPEAN AIR WAR

The War Hits Home

MicroProse goes full throttle with European Air War, a masterful simulation of World War II air combat. We haven't had this much fun behind the stick of a prop-driven fighter since Sierra's classic Aces Over the Pacific. And we were long overdue.

As the title suggests, European Air War re-creates major air conflicts from both the Battle of Britain and the 1943 European mainland war, including bombing missions deep in the heart of Axis territory and some of the most intense dogfighting you're ever likely to see.

MicroProse simulates an incredible array of 20 aircraft—divided almost evenly between the U.S., the RAF, and the German Luftwaffe—including the P-38 Lightning and the P-51 Mustang (U.S.); the Tempest V and the Spitfire (U.K.); and the Messerschmitt 109 and 110 (Germany). All planes feature accurately rendered cockpits, high polygon counts, and killer flight models. Mastering each one's unique abilities and quirks is a blast in itself.

The game's graphics are simply outstanding—if you have the right video hardware, that is. Direct3D and software rendering is acceptable, but it pales in comparison to the chrome unleashed by 3-D acceleration. We tested the game with a 12MB Monster 3D II video card and found the Voodoo2 Glide rendering to be excellent. Sky and ground textures looked superb, as did smoke, haze, and sun effects.

But the devil is in the details here. Hit an enemy plane in the engine, and it spews black smoke. Nail the fuel tank and watch the plane rip apart before your eyes. Keep watching, and you might see the pilot bail out. At ground level, you can spot towns and farmhouses, as well as tiny soldiers scrambling out of exploding buildings. The game's stereo sound effects are also great—from its bone-rattling explosions to the radio chatter and engine Doppler effect.

Another added benefit is support for force-feedback joysticks. We used a Microsoft SideWinder Force Feedback Pro, and after quickly mapping the joystick functions, we were able to feel and control 17 different aspects of game play.



A Hawker Hurricane enters the fight in MicroProse's addictive European Air War.

Play modes include instant action, single mission, and campaign (in which pilots' careers are tracked from one mission to the next). There's also a range of multiplayer options, including direct connection, modem, LAN, and free play over the Internet.

With its realistic graphics, accurate physics, and tactile feedback alone, European Air War is air combat at its finest. Add some compelling historical campaigns and kiss all your free time goodbye. It's that good. ***—Scott A. May***

COMPANY .....MicroProse
Alameda, CA; 510-864-4440
www.microprose.com
PRODUCT .....European Air War
SUPPORT .....Live phone support, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays (PT); FTP; BBS; 90-day replacement period for defective discs
SUITABILITY .....Will appeal primarily to flight-sim fans with a preference for wartime action and intricately detailed aircraft
REQUIRES ...Pentium 133 with 3-D acceleration or Pentium 166; 32MB RAM; 50MB hard drive space; 4x CD-ROM drive; Windows 95 or Windows 98
LIST PRICE $49.99

HERETIC II

A Shooter to Die For

Remember Corvus? He was the hero of Raven Software Corp.'s Heretic, one of the finest first-person games to be based on the Doom graphics engine. Well, Raven and Corvus are back with Heretic II, an equally impressive game based on the Quake II engine. Heretic II was developed by Raven, and is published and distributed by Activision.

After defeating D'sparil the Serpent Rider in the original Heretic, Corvus returns to his home world of Parthoris—only to find it afflicted by a terrible plague. To save his city and his people, Corvus must once again take up arms.

Like Tomb Raider, Heretic II is played from a third-person point of view. As a result, the game suffers from the same occasional awkward camera movements as all other third-person games, especially when you move too close to a wall or when you strafe from side to side. These flaws do not have a significant impact on the game play, however.

Moreover, the third-person point of view lets players take in a more panoramic view of the game's lush environments. Raven has always been known for its elaborate level design and its extraordinary attention to detail, but Heretic II sets a new standard for jaw-dropping graphics and 3-D architecture. The amazingly intricate wall textures combine fluidly with the realistic building designs and lighting effects to create one of the most immersive action-game environments we've seen. Naturally, you'll need a 3Dfx Voodoo- or Riva TNT-based graphics accelerator card to take it all in.

Game play is much like in Quake II and other shooters, although there are a few more puzzles to solve (another Raven trademark). Unlike many Raven games, however, the puzzles in Heretic II are well-explained and relatively easy to figure out given a little time.

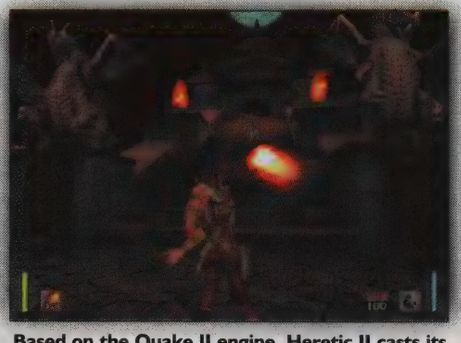
Heretic II also offers the ability to cast defensive magic spells, such as a meteor swarm that encircles your body until you get near some bad guys—at which point, the meteors fly off and attack. With its dazzling range of offensive weaponry, Heretic II offers a collection of raw firepower that any action fan will truly love. We especially liked the Storm Bow, which rains red destruction on your targets.

Multiplayer support is solid, as you might expect, although the game doesn't appear to be as popular online as most shooters. Hopefully, that will change because this really is a great game. In fact, Heretic II has just about everything going for it—outstanding graphics, great game play, and full multiplayer support. In short, Heretic II will make a believer out of you.

—Michael E. Ryan

Computer Shopper Best Buy APRIL 1999

Incredibly detailed environments and a rich assortment of weaponry make Raven's **Heretic II** a first-rate third-person shooter.



Based on the Quake II engine, Heretic II casts its spell with superb graphics and terrific game play.

COMPANY .....Raven Software Corp.
Distributed by Activision
Santa Monica, CA; 310-255-2000
www.activision.com
PRODUCT .....Heretic II
SUPPORT .....Automated phone support, 24 hours daily; BBS; America Online; CompuServe
SUITABILITY ....A must-have for action-game fans and a great introduction to the genre for gamers age 15 and older
REQUIRES .....P166 with 3-D accelerator or MMX P200; 32MB RAM (64MB recommended); 360MB hard drive space; 4x CD-ROM drive; DirectX-compatible graphics card; Windows 95, Windows 98, or Windows NT 4.0 with Service Pack 3
LIST PRICE $49.95

O.D.T.

Blending the Rules

There's a new trend in computer gaming. Instead of simply duplicating the last hit title, some designers are selectively borrowing ideas from several genres and weaving them into something unique. Such is the case with Psygnosis' O.D.T. (an abbreviation for Escape...or Die Trying). O.D.T. blends elements of third-person adventures (à la Tomb Raider), arcade puzzlers (Chaos Engine), shoot-'em-ups (Quake II), and role-playing (Diablo). Although this could have been a derivative mess, Psygnosis pulls it off in a big way with a game that's fast, deep, and fun.

The story line involves an airship sent to retrieve the legendary Green Pearl, whose magical powers can save the city of Calli from a deadly epidemic. On the return voyage, however, the ship is forced to crash into a tower of the Forbidden Zone. Worse still, the Green Pearl vanishes.

Players are cast as one of the airship's four crew members. Each character has his or her own unique abilities—whether it's strength, endurance, weapon training, or magic. And in a nod to RPGs, characters also gain experience and skill as they progress.

Combat is sensational, with a wide range of weapons, spells, and hideous monsters at which to shoot. Character movement is extremely detailed as well, letting you jump, roll, duck, hang, and climb with relative ease. The game is also rich in both physical and logical puzzles, and lets you explore eight levels (each with its own environment, puzzle types, enemy threats, and end-of-level boss) with complete freedom of movement.

O.D.T. also supports—but does not require—3-D graphics acceleration hardware. We tested the game on 3Dfx- and ATI Rage Pro-based cards, and the results were excellent in both instances. Surface texturing was minimal; the weapon and spell-casting effects were pure eye candy. Sound effects, too, were crisp and haunting. And although the game ships without multiplayer support in place, Psygnosis has issued a patch to enable modem, LAN, and Internet options.



The magician, one of O.D.T.'s four lead characters, encounters a harpy while exploring a labyrinth.

Fast, responsive controls are a must for any first- or third-person action game, and O.D.T. meets that requirement with ease. The game's keyboard/mouse combination works surprisingly well. The keyboard is used to move and manipulate items in your inventory, and to cast spells; the mouse lets you look, steer, and fire weapons. The game also supports force-feedback joysticks, though there's no mention of this in the documentation.

O.D.T. is like playing the best of several gaming genres that have been distilled into one tenacious challenge. The result is a brilliant concept that is expertly executed.

—S.A.M.

COMPANY .....Psygnosis
Foster City, CA; 800-438-7794
www.psygnosis.com
PRODUCT .....O.D.T.
SUPPORT .....Live phone support, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays (PT); automated after-hours phone support; 90-day warranty
SUITABILITY .....Primarily a third-person adventure, but has something for everyone—with the possible exceptions of real-time strategy enthusiasts and sim jockeys
REQUIRES .....P120-class processor (P200-class recommended); 16MB RAM (24MB recommended), 150MB hard drive space; 4x CD-ROM drive; Windows 95 or Windows 98
MFR. EST. PRICE $39.95

RAILROAD TYCOON II

Wall Street on the Rails

It's rare to find an engrossing strategy game that doesn't involve war scenarios or mass destruction. So it was a pleasant surprise to boot up PopTop Software's Railroad Tycoon II and find a game that focuses on building something rather than on blowing it up. Like Sid Meier's classic original, Railroad Tycoon, this sequel puts you in charge of the construction, maintenance, and expansion of a railroad—all with the ultimate goal of making big bucks and dominating the market.

The concepts behind building a successful railroad are easy to grasp—examine supply and demand in various cities, build rail lines between them, and provide enough trains to handle the subsequent freight. In time, you'll be able to buy faster trains, better equip your stations, and upgrade your tracks. At the game's highest difficulty levels, you'll also need to ensure that the industries you serve are properly stocked. Remember: Without tires and steel, auto plants won't provide you with anything to haul.

If micromanaging trainloads doesn't appeal to you, you can tone down the complexity and let industries produce on their own. Of course, if you just want your own virtual train set, the game's Sandbox mode turns off the economy elements altogether, and lets you lay track and run trains to your heart's content.

Although building an expansive rail network is a key factor, your financial victory depends on how well you play the stock market by buying and selling stocks in your own and other railroads, and even by attempting some hostile takeovers. But be forewarned: Your AI competition is history's most conniving robber barons. They're well-versed in high finance, and they'll use vicious tactics—such as dumping your stock on the market—to try to ruin you.

Some of the nicer improvements from the original include beautiful 1,024x768 SVGA graphics, removal of limits on the number of stations, a map editor, and competitive multiplayer action. But Railroad Tycoon II also has a few annoying quirks. Laying track would be much easier if there was an undo feature, and the lack of tunnels makes traversing mountainous areas a real bear. Also, the skimpy manual could have had more information on how to play the stock market for gamers who may be new to the world of high finance.



You'll have to carefully gauge a city's product supply and demand to make big bucks in Railroad Tycoon II.

Still, none of these gripes should be enough to derail your enjoyment of this game. That's because despite its peaceful premise, Railroad Tycoon II has an addictive quality that's likely to keep you up late at night as you attempt to build your fortune and put J.P. Morgan in his place.

—Denny Atkin

COMPANY .....PopTop Software
Published by Gathering of Developers
Dallas, TX; 877-463-4263
www.poptop.com, www.godgames.com
PRODUCT .....Railroad Tycoon II
SUPPORT .....Live toll-free phone support, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily (CT); 90-day replacement period for defective discs; e-mail; Web
SUITABILITY .....A challenging follow-up to a Sid Meier classic; ideal for real-time-strategy fans looking for a nonviolent alternative
REQUIRES .....P133-class processor; 16MB RAM; 130MB hard drive space; 4x CD-ROM drive; 1,024x768-capable video; Windows 95 or Windows 98; DirectX 5.0 or later
MFR. EST. PRICE $49.95



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- 10 pages per minute Optional 250 sheet paper tray

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- 12 Pages Per Minute
- 2 MB RAM Standard
- Factory Renewed
- 250 Sheet Paper Cassette
- 1 Year Warranty

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- 14.4 Modem
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- PC/FAX

CFX-L4500

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REFERENCE

SHOPPING TOOLS FOR DIRECT BUYERS

SOURCE DIRECTORY

Once you find a vendor that supplies the product you want at a price you like, check the company's listing in our Source Directory—an alphabetical rundown of the issue's advertisers.

A quick check will tell you whether the company's sales lines are open 24 hours, just during weekday business hours, or any time in between, and will also provide the number and the operating hours of the vendor's tech-support line. If you need to correspond with a company after you make a purchase, note its fax number and mailing address.

We also list each vendor's service-and-support policies, such as its basic warranty and money-back guarantee information; payment options, such as which credit cards are welcome; and whether the company charges a restocking fee for returned merchandise or a surcharge for credit-card orders. Volume buyers and resellers can learn about special discounts, too.

SHOPPER'S GUIDE CHARTS

The product charts for the hardware Shopper's Guide are a detailed, up-to-date product listing from a comprehensive list of manufacturers and vendors. The information is fact-checked to ensure the greatest possible accuracy, making the listing a valuable shopping tool when used in tandem with the Shopper's Guide itself. Learn what to look for and what questions to ask in the Shopper's Guide article, then turn to these charts for a list of products (complete with specifications) to compare and choose among.

HOW WE TEST

This section explains how we use our lab facilities and the Ziff-Davis Benchmark Operation's battery of tests in our stand-alone and comparative reviews—with an emphasis on the tests and procedures used to assess desktop PCs, notebook computers, and file servers.

EDITORIAL INDEX

Are you looking for a new product that you've heard about? Turn to the Editorial Index, an alphabetical listing of all computers, peripherals, components, and programs described in this issue's editorial pages. Just as our Product Index steers you to specific items in ways a regular advertisers' index can't, *Computer Shopper*'s Editorial Index goes beyond the table of contents in the front of the magazine.

The page numbers listed here will guide you to the comparative tests and single-product reviews in the magazine's Desktops, Mobile, Hardware, Networks, and Software sections.

PRODUCT INDEX

Are you ready to tackle the great buys found in *Computer Shopper*'s advertisements, but daunted by the idea of hunting through all those pages? Start with the Product Index, a supplement to our regular Advertisers' Index.

This guide directs you to the vendors you're looking for by product category. The compilation of hardware and software advertised in this issue sorts more than 14,000 products into more than 170 frequently updated categories.

If you've never used *Shopper*'s Product Index before, look for products under the manufacturer's name rather than model name or number. When an ad doesn't provide the manufacturer's name, the advertiser's name appears by default.

In addition to the name of the company that makes the product, you'll find one or more page numbers referring you to advertisements. In the case of multipage ads, only the first page number of the ad is listed, so you may still need to flip a few pages to find the product you're after.

SMOOTH SEARCHING

For Product Index Users

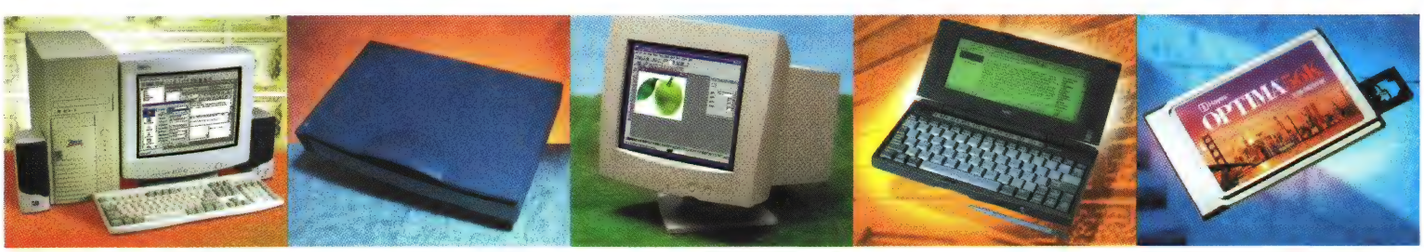
Due to the lead time required to assemble and print a monthly magazine, prices and product availability are subject to change. Call vendors to get their latest prices, and ask whether any unadvertised specials or sale prices are available.

Take notes and compare vendors' answers to find the best value for your needs. In addition to the resources in this Reference section, read the monthly Shopper's Guide and the Smart Shopper section, and search *Shopper*'s Web site (*computershopper.com*) to help compile your research and buying questions.

For more current information on the prices and configurations of systems reviewed in the most recent issue, visit *Computer Shopper*'s Price Update page at *www.csprices.com*.

ADVERTISERS' INDEX

Use this alphabetized listing of *Computer Shopper* advertisers to locate the pages on which a particular vendor is selling products.





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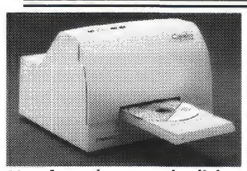
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Adaptec

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- Supports Win 95, 98 & NT 4.0. Ask about new version with free DirectCD
- Retail version of above (EZCDCRTRRTL) $90

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DirectCD (DIRECTCD) $39*
- Option for Easy-CD allows CD-R & CD-RW drives to work like hard drive under Win 95, 98 & NT 4.0 with some drives.

Toast CD-ROM Pro (TOAST) $75*
- Supports Macintosh includes Direct CD for MAC
- Retail version of above (TOASTRTL) $95

Gear

Gear Multimedia for PC (GEAROEM) $55*
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- Allows you mix your own audio CDs

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Sonic Foundry

CD Architect ultimate audio CD designer (CDARCHITECT) $279

Sound Forge audio editing software (SOUNDFORGE) $359

*Available with CDR purhase only, call for stand alone version & price.

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4x	5 pack (CDR74B-5)	$19	$17
4x	20 pack (CDR74B-20)	$36	$33
4x	50 pack (CDR74B-50)	$74	$70
4x	100 pack (CDR74B-100)	$139	$129
8x	5 pack (CDR74-5)	$21	$19
8x	20 pack (CDR74-20)	$42	$39
8x	50 pack (CDR74-50)	$93	$89
8x	100 pack (CDR74-100)	$159	$149
8x	Platinum 5 pack (CDR74PA-5)	$23	$21
8x	Platinum 20 pack (CDR74PA-20)	$45	$42
8x	Platinum 50 pack (CDR74PA-50)	$102	$97
8x	Platinum 100 pack (CDR74PA-100)	$169	$159

Printable CDR-74 in jewel case		Alone	with CDR
4x	5 pack (CDR74PB-5)	$24	$21
4x	20 pack (CDR74PB-20)	$55	$52
4x	50 pack (CDR74PB-50)	$109	$99
4x	100 pack (CDR74PB-100)	$179	$169
8x	5 pack (CDR74P-5)	$27	$24
8x	20 pack (CDR74P-20)	$65	$62
8x	50 pack (CDR74P-50)	$139	$135
8x	100 pack (CDR74P-100)	$239	$229

CD REWRITABLE MEDIA

CDR-74W in jewel case		Alone	with CDR
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2x	20 pack (CDR74WB-20)	$109	$105
2x	50 pack (CDR74WB-50)	$249	$239
2x	100 pack (CDR74WB-100)	$449	$439
4x	5 pack (CDR74W-5)	$59	$55
4x	20 pack (CDR74W-20)	$149	$145
4x	50 pack (CDR74W-50)	$359	$349
4x	100 pack (CDR74W-100)	$689	$679

New! CD-RW starter pack. Includes 5 CD-RWs (2x), and 10 CD-Rs (4x) (CDSTARTER) $45

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- 1200 clip art images
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SALE

SANYO 8x20 CD Recorder

SCSI Interface, 2MB Buffer, Tray Loading

Drive, software, 5 disks (CDR8X20S) **$349**

Drive, PCI card, software, 5 disks (CDR8X20S) **$419**

Ext Drive, software, 5 disks (CDR8X20S) **$439**

Visit www.dirtcheapdrives.com/8x20s to order this drive.

YAMAHA 4x4x16 CD ReWritable

- 4X record and rewrite speed
- 16X playback speed
- 2MB buffer, Tray loading
- Packet write compatible



Special media bundles Available only with this drive

Bundle A - 20 2x CD-RW, 20 4x CD-R (YCDR-A) $109

Bundle B - 20 4x CD-RW, 20 4x CD-R (YCDR-B) $159

SCSI Drive (YCRW4416S) $319

SCSI Drive, Adaptec EZ CD Creator, Direct CD, 1 4X R/W disk (YCRW4416WOW) $339

SCSI Drive, PCI card, Adaptec EZ CD Creator, Direct CD, 1 4X R/W disk (YCRW4416PDW) $419

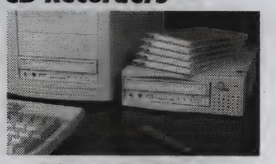
IDE Drive (YCRW4416E) $319

IDE Drive, Adaptec EZ CD Creator, Direct CD, 1 4X R/W disk (YCRW4416EK) $339

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CD Mastering Combo Units

This solution provides a Hard Drive, or Jaz drive and CD Recorder (or CD ReWritable) drive in one convenient enclosure. Create your CD content on the Hard Drive, or Jaz drive - then master directly to the CDR. Add these prices to the internal drive prices listed. 4GB will hold up to 6 frequently used disk images.



4GB Hard Drive (DUO4GB) $299

Jaz 2GB Removable (DUO2GBJAZ) $359

	Internal	External
8x20 SCSI CD ROM RECORDER		
• 8x Record, 20x Read, tray loading, 5 8x CD-rs		
Drive Kit	$359	$459
Complete Kit with ISA controller	$409	$509
Complete Kit with PCI controller	$459	$559
NEW!! 4x4x16 SCSI CD ReWritable		
• 4x Record, 4x ReWrite, 16x Read, Yamaha mechanism		
• Packet write compatible, 2MB cache		
• Tray Loading, includes 5 4x rewritable disks		
Drive Kit	$359	$459
Complete Kit with ISA controller	$409	$509
Complete Kit with PCI controller	$459	$559
NEW!! 4x4x20 IDE CD ReWritable		
• 4x Record, 4x ReWrite, 20x Read, Ricoh mechanism		
• Packet write compatible, 2MB cache		
• Tray Loading, includes 5 4x rewritable disks		
Drive Kit	$369	n/a
Complete Kit with ISA controller	$409	$499
Complete Kit with PCI controller	$429	n/a

Drive Kit - Includes drive, Mastering software for Win 95, 98 & NT, & 5 free disks (requires controller)

Complete Kit - Includes drive, ISA or PCI controller, Mastering software for Win 95, 98 & NT & 5 free disks

Special media bundles with any CD-RW drive

Bundle A - 20 2x CD-RW, 20 4x CD-R (CDR-A) $119

Bundle B - 20 4x CD-RW, 20 4x CD-R (CDR-B) $169

Special media bundle with any CD-R drive

100 4x CD-R disks, Stomper CD label kit with 100 labels. (CDR-STOMP) $149

IDE CD RECORDERS

Mitsumi 4x8 Packet write, 2MB buffer, tray load, IDE

Bare Internal (CRMC4801E) $179

Internal with mastering software & 1 disk (CRMC4801EK) $199

Hotport External with software & 1 disk (CRMC4801TXK) $329

WOW 4x8 CD-R Kit Only $199

FINALLY AN AFFORDABLE CD DUPLICATOR

- Fast 4X duplication speed, built in CD reader. LCD panel w/ controls.
- Built in hard drive allows you to save often used disk images.
- Duplicate almost any type of disk. If the CD-ROM can read it, you can duplicate it.
- Operating system independent.
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- Direct write from CD-ROM to CD-R
- Copy source CD to HDD once, then make 1-99 duplicates on the CD-R
- Create custom audio CD's from multiple audio CD titles.



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IDE CD REWRITABLE

Mitsumi 4x2x8 Packet write, 2MB buffer, writes to CDR (write once) at 4X, CDRW (rewritable) at 2X, and reads at 8X

Internal drive tray load (CRMC4802E) $229

Internal with software, 1 RW disk (CRMC4802EK) $249

HotPort external (CRMC4802EHP) $379

4x2x8 CD-RW Kit Only $249

JVC 2x2x24 Packet write, 2MB buffer, writes to CDR (write once) at 2X, CDRW (rewritable) at 2X, and reads at 24X

Internal drive tray load (XRW2080) $239

Internal with software, 1 RW disk (XRW2080K) $259

HotPort external (XRW2080HP) $389

Yamaha 4x4x16 Packet write, 2MB buffer, writes to CDR (write once) at 4X, CDRW (rewritable) at 4X, and reads at 16X

Internal drive tray load (YCRW4416E) $319

Internal with software, 1 RW disk (YCRW4416EK) $349

Hotport External w/software, 1 RW disk (YCRW4416HPK) $479

Ricoh 4x4x20 Packet write, 2MB buffer, writes to CDR (write once) at 4X, CDRW (rewritable) at 4X, and reads at 20X

Internal drive tray load (MP7040A) $329

Internal with software, 1 RW disk (MP7040AK) $359

HotPort external (MP7040AHP) $459

Hewlett Packard 4x2x24 ReWritable

CD-Writer Plus 8100, Writes to CDR (write once) or CDRW (rewritable) media. Packet write, 1MB buffer, tray load. 1 CD-R & 1 CD-RW disk.

IDE Internal with software (C4392A) $339

HotPort external with software (C4392HP) $469

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- ***DVD recorders*** (dirtcheapdrives.com/dvdram)

We custom configure to your needs.

SCSI CD RECORDERS

Matsushita (PANASONIC) 4x8 Packet write, 1MB buffer

Internal drive tray load (CDR7502B) $229

Internal kit w/ controller, software, 1 disk (CDR7502BKP) $309

External drive tray load (CDR7502BX) $319

Teac 4x24 Packet write, 2MB buffer, tray load

Internal drive (CDR56S) $249

Internal kit w/ controller, software, 1 disk (CDR56SK) $329

External drive (CDR56SX) $339

Plextor 4x12 Packet write, 2MB buffer, tray & caddy load

Internal drive (PXWRITER) $319

Internal kit w/ controller, software, 1 disk (PXWRITERK) $409

External drive (PXWRITERX) $399

Sanyo 8x20 Packet write, 2MB buffer, tray load

Internal drive w/ software & 5 disks (CDR8X20S) $349

External drive w/ software & 5 disks (CDR8X20SX) $439

Plextor 8x20 Packet write, 4MB buffer, tray load

Internal drive with software & 1 disk (PXR820T) $459

External drive with software & 1 disk (PXR820TX) $549

SCSI CD REWRITABLE

Yamaha 4x4x16 Packet write, 2MB buffer, writes to CDR (write once) at 4X, CDRW (rewritable) at 4X, and reads at 16X

Internal drive tray load (YCRW4416S) $319

External drive tray load (YCRW4416SX) $409

Internal w/ software, 1 RW disk (YCRW4416WOW) $339

Plextor 4x2x20 Packet write, 2MB buffer, tray load

Internal drive with software & 1 disk (PXW4220I) $419

External drive with software & 1 disk (PXW4220X) $499

Easy "Drag-and-drop" software is here!

Recognize any CD-RW drive as a drive letter under Win 95 and 98. Prassi abCD makes it as easy as ABCD.

Only $19 with any CD-RW drive or $29 alone #CDABCD



DIRT CHEAP

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Quantum (dirtcheapdrives.com/qtm)

We recommend Quantum drives!

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6.4GB	9.5ms	5400	FB306400A	3	$149
8.4GB	10.5ms	4000	BF8400A	3	$167
12.7GB	10.5ms	4000	BF12700A	3	$219
12.7GB	9.5ms	5400	FB312700A	3	$225
19.0GB	10.5ms	4000	BF19000A	3	$309
ULTRA ATA/66 IDE Ultra ATA-66 PCI controller $69 (ULTRA66)					
4.3GB	9.5ms	5400	CR304300A	3	$137
6.4GB	9.5ms	5400	CR306400A	3	$157
8.4GB	9.5ms	5400	CR308400A	3	$181
12.7GB	9.5ms	5400	CR313000A	3	$249
ULTRA SCSI					
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8.4GB	9.5ms	5400	FB38400S	3	$299
9.1GB	8ms	7200	XP309100S	5	$369*
18.2GB	8ms	7200	XP318200S	5	$659*
ULTRA WIDE SCSI					
4.5GB	8ms	7200	VK304550W	5	**$247**
9.1GB	8ms	7200	VK309100W	5	**$349***
ULTRA-2 SCSI (80MB/sec)					
4.5GB	8ms	7200	VK304550LW	5	**$247**
9.1GB	8ms	7200	VK309100LW	5	**$349***
9.1GB	8ms	7200	XP309100LW	5	$369*
18.2GB	8ms	7200	XP318200LW	5	$659*
SCA Ultra-2 Single Connector Attachment					
4.5GB	8ms	7200	VK304550SCA	5	**$247**
9.1GB	8ms	7200	VK309100SCA	5	**$349***
9.1GB	8ms	7200	XP309100SCA	5	$369*
18.2GB	8ms	7200	XP318200SCA	5	$659*
ULTRA-2 SCSI - A/V OPTIMIZED					
4.5GB	8ms	7200	VK304550LV4	5	$279
9.1GB	8ms	7200	VK309100LV4	5	$379*
18.2GB	8ms	7200	XP318200LV4	5	$689*

* Prices shown reflect final price after Quantum mail in rebate. Rebate valid on drives purchased 3/1/99 thru 4/15/99. Viking (VK) & Atlas(XP) 9GB rebate of $25 and Atlas 18GB rebate of $50. Rebate limited to 5 drives per customer.

IBM (dirtcheapdrives.com/ibm)

ULTRA IDE					
10.1GB	512k	5400	IBM10GP	3	$195
10.1GB	512k	7200	IBM10GXP	3	$239
12.9GB	512k	5400	IBM12GP	3	$249
14.4GB	512k	7200	IBM14GXP	3	$347
16.8GB	512k	5400	IBM16GP	3	$299
ULTRA ATA-66 IDE Ultra ATA-66 PCI controller $69 (ULTRA66)					
18.0GB	2MB	7200	IBM18GXP	3	$455
20.3GB	2MB	5400	IBM20GP	3	$445
22.0GB	2MB	7200	IBM22GXP	3	$560
25.0GB	2MB	5400	IBM25GP	3	$555
ULTRA SCSI					
4.5GB	512k	7200	IBM34560N	5	$225
9.1GB	512k	7200	IBM39130N	5	$379
18.2GB	1MB	7200	IDGHS18Z	5	$719
18.2GB	2MB	7200	IBM318350N	5	$919
ULTRA WIDE SCSI					
4.5GB	512k	7200	IBM34560W	5	$215
9.1GB	512k	7200	IBM39130W	5	$379
18.2GB	1MB	7200	IDGHS18U	5	$719
ULTRA-2 SCSI (80MB/sec)					
9.1GB	512k	7200	IBM39130U2	5	$379
9.1GB	1MB	10,020	IDRVS9UZ	5	$589
9.1GB	4MB	10,020	IDRVS9UZ4	5	$619
18.2GB	1MB	7200	IDGHS18U2	5	$719
18.2GB	2MB	7200	IBM318350U2	5	$919
18.2GB	4MB	10,020	IDRVS18ZX	5	$979
36.4GB	4MB	7200	IDRHS36U2	5	$1499

HARD DRIVES

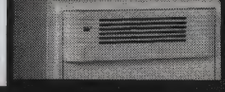
Seagate (dirtcheapdrives.com/sea)

• We have the best prices around on these hot drives.

ULTRA IDE		RPM	Model	Wty	Price
3.2GB	256k	5400	ST33210A	3	$125
4.3GB	128k	5400	ST34321A	3	$135
6.4GB	256k	5400	ST36422A	3	$155
8.6GB	128k	5400	ST38641A	3	$169
10.2GB	128k	5400	ST310240A	3	$190
17.2GB	128k	5400	ST317240A	3	$call
ULTRA SCSI					
4.5GB	512k	7200	ST34520N	3	$215
4.5GB	512k	7200	ST34573N	5	$345
6.5GB	512k	7200	ST36530N	3	$275
9.1GB	512k	7200	ST39140N	3	$340
9.1GB	512k	7200	ST39173N	5	$398
18.2GB	512k	7200	ST118273N	5	$749
ULTRA WIDE SCSI					
4.5GB	512k	7200	ST34520W	3	$215
4.5GB	512k	7200	ST34573W	5	$345
6.5GB	512k	7200	ST36530W	3	$275
9.1GB	512k	7200	ST39140W	3	$340
9.1GB	512k	7200	ST39173W	5	$398
18.2GB	512k	7200	ST118273W	5	$749
ULTRA-2 SCSI (80MB/sec)					
4.5GB	1MB	7200	ST34573LW	5	$345
4.5GB	1MB	10,000	ST34502LW	5	$495
9.1GB	1MB	7200	ST39173LW	5	$398
9.1GB	1MB	10,000	ST39102LW	5	$615
9.1GB	1MB	7200	ST39175LW	5	$699*
9.1GB	4MB	10,000	ST39102LW4	5	$729
9.1GB	1MB	10,000	ST39103LW	5	$819*
18.2GB	1MB	7200	ST118273LW	5	$745
18.2GB	1MB	10,000	ST118202LW	5	$999
18.2GB	1MB	7200	ST318275LW	5	$1259*
18.2GB	4MB	10,000	ST118202LW4	5	$1349
18.2GB	1MB	10,000	ST318203LW	5	$1459*
36.4GB	1MB	7200	ST136475LW	5	$2129*
36.4GB	1MB	10,000	ST136403LW	5	$2459*
50.1GB	1MB	7200	ST150176LW	5	$2669*
SCA Ultra Wide Single Connector Attachment					
4.5GB	512k	7200	ST34520WC	3	$219
6.5GB	512k	7200	ST36530WC	3	$279
9.1GB	512k	7200	ST39140WC	3	$345
SCA Ultra-2 Single Connector Attachment					
4.5GB	1MB	7200	ST34573LC	5	$349
4.5GB	1MB	10,000	ST34502LC	5	$499
9.1GB	1MB	10,000	ST39102LC	5	$619
9.1GB	1MB	7200	ST39173LC	5	$399
18.2GB	1MB	7200	ST118273LC	5	$749
18.2GB	1MB	10,000	ST118202LC	5	$1009
FC-AL Fibre Channel - Arbitrated Loop					
4.5GB	1MB	10,000	ST34502FC	5	$499
9.1GB	1MB	10,000	ST39102FC	5	$619
9.1GB	1MB	7200	ST39173FC	5	$399
18.2GB	1MB	7200	ST118273FC	5	$749
18.2GB	1MB	10,000	ST118202FC	5	$1009

*These are the new Barracuda and Cheetah drives. Prices are falling on these drives so call or visit dirtcheapdrives.com/sea to find out todays price. The 9 and 18GB drives are 1" high. All models also available in SCA and Fibre.

www.dirtcheapdrives.com



Keep your hard drive running cool. Extend the life of your drive.

Twin cooling fans are controlled by heat sensisitive circuitry. (VHDFAN) $30

HARD DRIVES

Maxtor (dirtcheapdrives.com/max)

ULTRA IDE		RPM	Model	Wty	Price
4.3GB	512k	5400	M90432D	3	$135
8.4GB	512k	5400	M90845D	3	$167
10.0GB	512k	7200	M91024D	3	$219
13.0GB	512k	5400	M91303D	3	$229
15.3GB	512k	7200	M91536D	3	$295
17.2GB	512k	5400	M91728D	3	$292
20.4GB	512k	7200	M92048D	3	$385

WESTERN DIGITAL (dirtcheapdrives.com/wd)

ULTRA IDE	Speed	RPM	Model	Wty	Price
4.3GB	256k	5400	WDAC14300	3	$139
6.4GB	512k	5400	WDAC26400	3	$151
8.4GB	256k	5400	WDAC28400	3	$166
ULTRA ATA-66 IDE Ultra ATA-66 PCI controller $69 (ULTRA66)					
10.2GB	512k	5400	WDAC310200	3	$200
13.0GB	512k	5400	WDAC313000	3	$241

Call for new 15GB and 20GB drives

ULTRA-2 SCSI Call for new 4, 9, and 18GB Ultra-2 drives

LAPTOP DRIVES

HITACHI

Capacity	Height	RPM	Model	Wty	Price
5.0GB	12.7mm	4000	DK228A50	3	$229
6.4GB	12.7mm	4000	DK228A65	3	$309

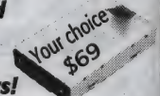
TOSHIBA

Capacity	Height	RPM	Model	Wty	Price
2.1GB	8.45mm	4200	MK2109MAT	3	$149
4.3GB	8.45mm	4200	MK4309MAT	3	$189
6.4GB	12.7mm	4200	MK6409MAV	3	$259

IBM

Capacity	Height	RPM	Model	Wty	Price
3.2GB	9.5mm	4200	DB23240	3	$209
4.8GB	9.5mm	4200	DB24860	3	$235
6.4GB	9.5mm	4200	DB26480	3	$325
8.1GB	19mm	4900	DP28100	1	$469
8.1GB	12.5mm	4200	DC28100	3	$509
10.0GB	12.5mm	4200	DC21000	3	$629
14.1GB	17mm	4200	DC24000	3	$749

Hard drive caddies for name brand laptops! Mount one of our 2.5" hard drives into the appropriate caddy and save hundreds of dollars!



IBM 355,360,750,755(THKPAD), 760(TP760), 365(TP365), 600 (TP600), 701(TP701), 760 (TP760), 770 (TP770)
Compaq Contura(CQCON), Elite(CQEL5000),Armada(CQA41) Armada 7300(CQA73), 1010(CQP1010)
NEC Versa(NV), 2000,4000,6000(N4000), 2400,2500(N24)
Toshiba TEC 500,510(T500), 100,110,200,210,400,430(T400) 4700,4800,TEC 700(T700), 1950(T1950), 660 (T660), POR 610(T610) POR 650(T650) Tecra 520,530, Satellite Pro 440,460,480 (T440EB)
AST 800,810,900,910(A900), J series (AJ) | Hitachi Visionbook (HVB+)
HP 4000,5000(H5000), 5500(H5500)|Dell XPi(DXP) Gateway ColorBook(G2000)

2.5" Accessories

Diskmanager partitioning software (DISKMANAGER)	$20
2.5" IDE to 3.5" IDE adapter kit (IDEKIT-2.5)	$22
2.5" SCSI to 3.5" SCSI adapter kit (SCSIKIT-2.5)	$22
Parallel external drive case for 2.5" IDE (PPCASE2.5)	$89
PCMCIA external drive case for 2.5" IDE (PCMCIACASE25)	$139

PC CARD (PCMCIA) Accessories

Internal PC Card reader for desktop PC (PCD220)	$99
External PC Card reader for desktop PC (PED220)	$129

DIRT CHEAP DRIVES 1-800-473-0960

DRIVES 800-473-0960

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Quantum



Quantum FIREBALL

Quantum's Fireball EL and EX drives are the perfect choice for Ultra ATA hard drives. They offer great performance with a huge 512K buffer, and a fast 5400rpm spindle speed. These drives also feature the new Shock Protection System (SPS) that protects the drive heads in case of shock.

Our #1 IDE Drives

Model	Capacity	Price
FB303200A	3.2GB	$125
FB306400A	6.4GB	$149
FB312700A	12.7GB	$225

19GB Sale

BF19000A	19GB	$309

Our #1 selling SCSI drives at unbelievable prices!

Quantum VIKING

Viking II Drives Offer:

- Fast 7200rpm
- Cool, Quiet Operation
- Large 512K Buffer
- 5 Year Warranty

9.1GB only $349*

Choose any of these models: Ultra-2 SCA (VK309100SCA), Ultra Wide SCSI (VK309100W), or Ultra-2 (LVD) SCSI (VK309100LW)

Quantum ATLAS

Atlas III Drives Offer:

- Fast 7200rpm
- Cool, Quiet Operation
- Large 1MB Buffer
- 5 Year Warranty
- Dual Microprocessors for ultimate speed

9GB only $369*

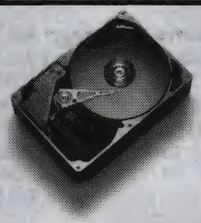
Choose any of these models: Ultra-2 SCA (XP309100SCA) Ultra SCSI (XP309100S), or Ultra-2 (LVD) SCSI (XP309100LW)

18GB only $659*

WOW

Choose any of these models: Ultra-2 SCA (XP318200SCA) Ultra SCSI (XP318200S), or Ultra-2 (LVD) SCSI (XP318200LW)

* Prices shown reflect final price after Quantum mail in rebate. Rebate valid on drives purchased 3/1/99 thru 4/15/99. Atlas 9GB rebate of $25 and Atlas 18GB rebate of $50. Rebate limited to 5 drives per customer.



Quantum A/V Drives Tuned to Perfection

Today's exploding AV technology requirements have given rise to a tremendous demand for storage products with exceptional performance, capacity, and especially high reliability. Quantum's high capacity, high performance Atlas III and Viking II Ultra-2 SCSI (LVD) disk drives are among the best in their class and they have been tuned to the digital video users requirements for peak performance.

4550MB	9100MB	18200MB
Internal	Internal	Internal
$279	$379*	$659*
#VK304550LV4	#VK309100LV4	#XP318200LV4
External	External	External
$409	$509*	$789*
#VK304550LV4X	#VK309100V4X	#XP318200V4X

Quantum's high performance disk drives are Audio/Visual ready, and offer the following features:

- The highest capacity disk drives available in the industry today, nearly 50 minutes of typical broadcast-quality video on a single 18GB drive.
- Sustained data transfer rates in excess of 10+ MB/sec, to as high as 12+ MB/sec.
- Programmable error recovery timeout limit ensures that the drive meets the A/V system availability requirement. Drive timeout can be limited to as little as 100ms.
- On-the-fly Error Correction (ECC) maximizes data integrity, minimizing or eliminating interruptions in the flow of your streaming video.
- Full track line caching ensures excellent drive performance, especially during the more random types of I/O operations common in the Non Linear editing Process.
- Fully Embedded Servo guarantees that thermal calibrations will never interrupt your critical video capture or playback operations.

* Prices shown reflect final price after Quantum mail in rebate. Rebate valid on drives purchased 3/1/99 thru 4/15/99. Atlas 9GB rebate of $25 and Atlas 18GB rebate of $50. Rebate limited to 5 drives per customer.

Disclaimer: The Quantum AV drives have been optimized for use in digital video and audio environments. These optimizations make Quantum's AV drives unsuitable for use in applications where data integrity is an absolute requirement. For applications where Quantum drives will not be used exclusively for digital AV, please consider Quantum's non-optimized line of hard disk drives.

We are the #1 source for Quantum drives. Call or visit dirtcheapdrives.com/qtm to take advantage of our Quantum daily specials.



24 hour a day SECURE ordering! From a company you trust.

www.dirtcheapdrives.com

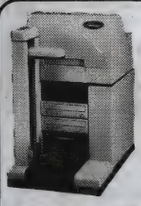
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- Tape Drives
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- RAID
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- CD Rewritable
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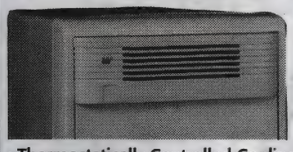
CEDAR CD DUPLICATORS



Attaches to your PC or Mac SCSI Port. 50 Disc auto loader, lets you load 50 discs & walk away. 4X CD record speed CDs are verified on separate 8X drive. Works with most operating systems.

1 CD-R drive #CEDARDUP50 $4899
1 CD-R drive & CD Printer #CEDARDUP50P $5969
Visit dirtcheapdrives.com/dupe for our complete line of CD duplicators.

DRIVE COOLER

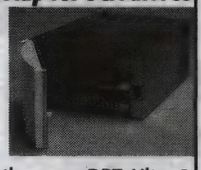


Deluxe (VHDFAN) $30

• Thermostatically Controlled Cooling System (TCCS) Twin Fan cooler can reduce the temperature of your drive up to 30%. Prolongs the drive life up to 50%. Mounts in 5 1/4" half height bay with front access.

NEW Hot swappable drive setup for SCA drives

- Mount three 1" high SCA drives in a single 5 1/4" full height bay.
- Quality metal construction.
- Front cooling fan, VERY NICE!



(SCA3DRIVE) $299 add $100 for external

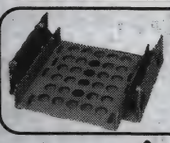
Computer Shopper Special:
Internal version of above plus the new DPT Ultra-2 PM1554U2 RAID controller for only $695 (SCAPROMO)

Brand Specific Mounting Hardware

Compaq
- Metal rails for 5 1/4" bay (CQSYSPRO) $19
- Prosignia & System Pro XL 3.5" rear and bottom bay (CQPROSIG3.5) $25
- SCA drive tray for LD, LH, LX server (HSTRAY) $79

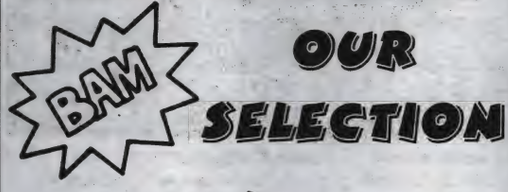
Gateway
- Metal rails for 5 1/4" bay (ATMETAL) $17

Dell
- Rails for Optiplex 5 1/4" bay (DOPTIR) $19
- Rails for Dimension 5 1/4" bay (DDIMR) $19



Shock Mount Bracket
- Mounts in 5 1/4" HH bay
- Provides shock protection via rubber isolators for 3 1/2" drives.

(SBRACKET) $39



iomega SUPER SALE! iomega

100MB ZIP

Internal IDE for PC (ZIP100A)	$89
Internal IDE for PC 10 pack (ZIP100A-10)	$799
Internal SCSI for PC (ZIP100I)	$119
External SCSI for PC or Mac (ZIP100)	$119
External for PC parallel port (PPZIP100)	$119
External for USB port (ZIP100USB)	$149
Zip+ for parallel and SCSI (ZIP100PLUS)	$165
Internal for Toshiba, Compaq, IBM notebooks	$189
100MB disks (ZIP100C) Qty 2-9/Qty 10+	$13/$10.5

NEW 250MB ZIP

External SCSI for PC or Mac (ZIP250)	$187
External for PC parallel port (PPZIP250)	$187
250MB disks (ZIP250C) Qty 2-9/Qty 10+	$19/$17

2Gig JAZ

- Backwards compatible with Jaz 1Gig disks.
- 10ms read, 12ms write, 5394rpm, 512K buffer.

Internal SCSI (JAZ2I)	$289
External SCSI (JAZ2X)	$319
1GB Disks (JAZC1GIGPC) Qty 2-4/5-9/10+	$80/$77/$75
2GB Disks (JAZC2GIGPC) Qty 2-4/5-9/10+	$80/$74/$72

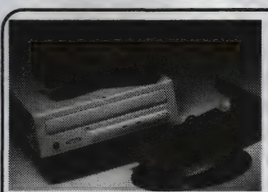
JAZ ACCESSORIES

ISA Controller (JAZJETISA)	$89
PCI Controller (JAZJETPCI)	$99
PCMCIA Type II Adapter (JAZPCMCIA)	$115
Parallel Adapter Jaz Traveller (JAZPARALLEL)	$49

MicroSolutions

Parallel Port Drives

24X CD-ROM, Bantam (BACKPAC24X)	$195
24X CD-ROM, Bantam w/ sound (BACKPAC24XS)	$239
32X CD-ROM (BACKPAC32X)	$199
32X CD-ROM with sound (BACKPAC32Xs)	$239
3GB Hard Drive (BACKPACK3G)	$299
6GB Hard Drive (BACKPACK6G)	$389
8GB Hard Drive (BACKPACK8G)	$479
2x2x6 CD Rewritable (BACKPACK2X6)	$369
4x2x6 CD Rewritable (BACKPACK4X6)	$439



Hot Port External IDE Case

The perfect way to turn any IDE drive into an external. Compatible with Hard drives, CD ROM, CD-R, CD-RW, tape, optical, DVD, or any other IDE drive. Includes IDE controller card, cable, and case. Power goes thru the data cable so no awkward power cables. Perfect for sharing drives among multiple computers. Similar to a external parallel port case but TWICE as fast. This solution is also cheaper than SCSI.

(HOTPORT) $129 Extra HotPort controller (HOTCT) $59

SONY 200MB HiFD

The high capacity floppy drive you have been waiting for.
- Reads existing 1.44MB floppies
- Easy to install external for parallel port

#SFD200SBP $195

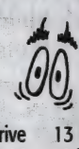
NETWORK STORAGE

Ethernet CD ROM Towers



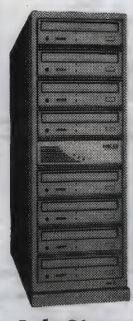
• Can be used simultaneously from Win 95, NT, OS/2, and UNIX platforms using Novell Netware, Microsoft Networks, and NFS.

Smart STORAGE SOLUTIONS



	7 Drive 10 baseT	7 Drive 10/100	13 Drive 10 baseT	13 Drive 10/100
NEC-24X	$1399	$1629	$2359	$2459
Toshiba-32X	$1499	$1729	$2629	$2729
Toshiba-40X	$1599	$1829	$2809	$2909
Plextor-40X	$2259	$2489	$3979	$4079
Nakamichi-16X	$2569	$2799	$4609	$4709

Nakamichi holds 5 disks per drive. Token Ring & other models also available.



BEST BUY
8 Drive Auto Switching Network CD Tower

• 8 drive tower automatically swithces between 10 base T, and 10/100 ethernet networks. Works in almost all network enviroments. Fantastic buy! Uses FiSC-CD controller listed below.

32X Drive tower (SSS32X8N) $1599
16X, 4 CD Changer tower, holds 32 CDs (SSS16X5/8N) $2299

Axis Storepoint HD (Ethernet Iomega Jaz)

• HD stand alone network storage server allows you to connect up to 7 Jaz (1 or 2GB) drives. (AXISHD) $859
• HD/T tower module mounts in a tower case & occupies one 5.25" hh drive bay. Supports up to 7 Jaz drives (AXISHD/T) $859
• HD/4 Jaz pre assembled Jaz tower with 4 1GB Jaz drives. Featues built-in StorePoint HD Ethernet support. Includes 4 pieces of media. (AXISHD/4) $1349

Meridian Data Snap Server (Ethernet Hard Drive)

• Now it's easy to install more hard drive space.
• Attaches directly to your Ethernet Network.
• Supports Microsoft, Novell, and Unix networks.

8GB (SNAP8GB) $879 16GB (SNAP16GB) $1659

Axis StorePoint CD (Ethernet SCSI CD Controller)

• Allows you to connect your SCSI CD ROM drives directly to your Ethernet or Token Ring network without a computer. Stand alone has its own external enclosure. Tower module mounts in a tower case & occupies 1 5 1/4" HH drive bay.

Enclosure	Network	Max # drives	Item#	Price
Stand-alone	Ethernet	7	AXISCD-E	$479
Stand-alone	Token Ring	7	AXISCD-TR	$579
Tower Module	Ethernet	7	AXISCD/T-E	$479
Tower Module	Token Ring	7	AXISCD/T-TR	$599
Tower Module	Ethernet	14	AXISCDT2E	$709
Tower Module	Ethernet or Fast ethernet	7	AXISCDT100	$659
Tower Module	Ethernet or Fast ethernet	14	AXISCDT2EC	$799

FISC-CD (Ethernet IDE CD Controller)



• Connect up to 8 IDE CD ROMS (in increments of 2) directly to your Ethernet network without a computer. Auto switches between Ethernet and Fast Ethernet connection. Features 8MB RAM buffer, user upgradable to 72MB through SIMM sockets. FISC CD offers the most complete protocol support in the industry: Windows NT, Netware, Unix, Web server, and Macintosh. This controller is interent ready with built-in WWW server function. Mounts in a 5.25" HH drive bay. (FISC-CD) $839

DIRT CHEAP DRIVES 1-800-473-0960

DRIVES 800-473-0960

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Removable Drive Brackets

- Turn any 3 1/2" drive into a removable
- Open face cartridges are compatible with Zip, Jaz, Syjet, Optical, Tape, etc.

Possible applications:

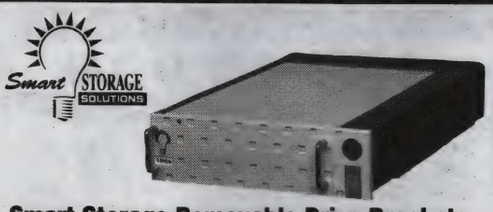
- Data Security:
  - Hard drives can be easily removed and locked away.
  - Backup from an existing drive to a removable hard drive for THE FASTEST backup speed available, then remove and store it away.
- Data Transfer:
  - Hard drives are much faster than other removable media solutions, moving your data to a removable hard drive and taking it to a service bureau is much faster than other solutions.
  - When working on large files on the office computer, transfer to the computer at home is easily accomplished in seconds.
- Drive/data sharing:
  - All drives of the same interface family can easily be moved among multiple computers.
  - A single copy of software can be loaded onto a drive and moved from one computer to the other.
  - Separate drives can be loaded with different operating systems and you can boot off of that operating system.
- Easy Upgrade/Replacement:
  - To upgrade your drive just unplug and install the new drive. It's so easy, there's no need to open the computer.
  - Easy drive exchange makes these drives perfect for RAID applications.



Transporter Removable Drive Brackets

Features built in cooling fan, SCSI ID switch, and gold plated connectors. Plastic construction with metal top and bottom covers on cartridge.

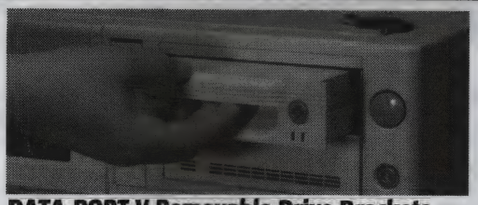
COMPLETE KIT	
Includes 1 frame, and 1 cartridge	
IDE with plastic cartridge (TRANSIDE)	$55
SCSI with plastic cartridge (TRANSSCSI)	$59
EXTRA CARTRIDGE	
Plastic IDE (TRANSIDECA)	$33
Plastic SCSI (TRANSSCSICA)	$33
EXTRA FRAME	
IDE (TRANSIDEFR)	$37
SCSI (TRANSSCSIFR)	$40
ACCESSORIES	
Carrying case for cartridge (DPCASE)	$35



Smart Storage Removable Drive Brackets

- Extremely rugged, all metal construction.
- Grab handles for easy removal and insertion.
- Industry standard 5 1/4" half height form factor.
- Gold plated connectors rated at 10,000 insertions.
- Built in premium ball bearing cooling fan.
- Key locking drive to prevent unwanted removal.
- LED displays drive ID on SCSI units, and Master/Slave configuration on IDE.
- Each SCSI drive module has an easy to access SCSI ID selector.

COMPLETE KIT	
Metal IDE (SSSDIAKIT)	$99
Metal IDE 1" opening (SSSDIA1KIT)	$105
Metal SCSI (SSSDISKIT)	$105
Metal SCSI 1" opening (SSSDIS1KIT)	$111
Metal SCSI 1.6" opening (SSSDIS6KIT)	$111
Metal WIDE SCSI (SSSDIWKIT)	$149
Metal WIDE SCSI 1" opening (SSSDI1KIT)	$155
Metal WIDE SCSI 1.6" opening (SSSDIW6KIT)	$155
EXTRA CARTRIDGE	
Metal IDE (SSSDICAS)	$59
Metal IDE 1" opening (SSSDICA1)	$65
Metal SCSI (SSSDICSS)	$60
Metal SCSI 1" opening (SSSDICS1)	$66
Metal SCSI 1.6" opening (SSSDACSD)	$66
Metal WIDE SCSI (SSSDICWS)	$79
Metal WIDE SCSI 1" opening (SSSDICW1)	$85
Metal WIDE SCSI 1.6" opening (SSSDICWD)	$85
EXTRA FRAME	
Metal IDE (SSSDIFA)	$59
Metal SCSI (SSSDIFS)	$69
Metal WIDE SCSI (SSSDIFW)	$89
ACCESSORIES	
Carrying case for cartridge (DPCASE)	$35
Cover plate to cover opening when cartridge is removed (SSSFPLATE)	$15



DATA-PORT V Removable Drive Brackets

High quality construction. Gold plated connections. Features built in cooling fan, SCSI ID switch. Metal frame construction. Plastic cartridge with metal top and bottom covers.

COMPLETE KIT	Platinum	Black
Includes 1 frame, and 1 cartridge		
IDE with plastic cartridge (DP2200A)	$79	$99
IDE with all metal cartridge (DP2200AM)	$99	$119
SCSI (DP2200S)	$85	$105
SCSI with open face cartridge (DP2200R)	$141	$161
ULTRA WIDE SCSI (DP2200UW)	$139	$159
EXTRA CARTRIDGE		
Plastic IDE (DPACART)	$39	$59
Metal IDE (DPACARTM)	$59	$79
SCSI (DPSCART)	$40	$60
SCSI open face (DPSCARTR)	$96	$116
ULTRA WIDE SCSI (DPUWCART)	$69	$89
EXTRA FRAME		
IDE (DPAFRAME)	$49	same
SCSI (DPSFRAME)	$54	same
ULTRA WIDE SCSI (DPUWFRAME)	$80	same

DATA-PORT VI Removable Drive Brackets

High quality construction. Gold plated connections. Features built in cooling fan with audible fan failure alarm, SCSI ID switch. Metal frame and cartridge construction.

COMPLETE KIT		
Includes 1 frame, and 1 cartridge		
SCSI (DP2200SM)	$95	$115
ULTRA WIDE SCSI (DP2200UWM)	$159	$179
SCA (uses SCA drives) (DP2200SCA)	$159	$179
EXTRA CARTRIDGE		
SCSI (DPSCARTM)	$60	$80
ULTRA WIDE SCSI (DPUWCARTM)	$89	$109
SCA (uses SCA drives) (DPSCACART)	$89	$109
EXTRA FRAME		
SCSI (DPSFRAMEAL)	$54	same
ULTRA WIDE SCSI (DPUWFRAMEA)	$80	same
SCA (DPSCAFRAME)	$80	same
ACCESSORIES for DataPort V and VI		
Carrying case for cartridge (DPCASE)	$35	same
Cover plate to cover opening when cartridge is removed (DPFPLATE)	$10	$12

WE KNOW RAID

Dirt Cheap Drives can custom configure a RAID to meet your needs. Here are a few popular components. We stock many other RAID components. For a complete quote call one of our RAID experts at 800-475-7730.

IDE RAID CASE



Incredible quality. Extremely well built. Just add up to 6 IDE drives of any capacity, and an Ultra Wide SCSI controller to your computer and you are ready for high performance, fault tolerant RAID. Features hot swap drive shuttles, 4 cooling fans, and redundant hot swap power supplies. Run as RAID 0 or 5. Supports all major operating systems. (IDERAIDCASE) $2199

RAID CONTROLLERS

If you are looking to attach a large amount of storage, or create a fault tolerant (if a drive fails you are still up and going) environment to your server or high end workstation this is the way to go. These model are for Ultra Wide hard drives. Pair with a RAID enclosure listed to the right.

DPT PCI PM1554U2	$479
Adaptec PCI AAA131	$369

RAID SUITABLE ENCLOSURES

These hard drive enclosures are perfect for RAID or multiple drive applications. They feature hot swappable drive shuttles, and large cooling fans. These cases use a special backplane technology that allows you to use Wide SCSI, Ultra Wide SCSI, or Ultra-2 LVD hard drives without the normal cable length problems. Add drives and a DPT or Adaptec RAID controller for your complete high end RAID solution.



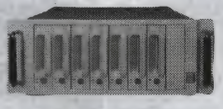
2 Drive Desktop Model (FHCASEUSW) $599



4 Drive Desktop Model (DUALCASEUSW) $799



7 Drive Desktop Model (QUADCASEUSW) $1459
8 Drive Desktop Model (QUADCASE8U2) $1609
8 Drive Dual channel (QUADCSDUAL) $1649



7 Drive Rack Model (RACKCASEUSW) $1519
8 Drive Rack Model (RACKCASE8U2) $1649
8 Drive Dual channel (RACKCSDUAL) $1699

Automatic Backup System



IDE RAID 1 unit automatically backs up your hard drive data the best way - to another hard drive. With the ABS installed, your computer will automatically write data to your existing drive and to the ABS drive at the same time. Much better than a tape drive. Mounts in a half height drive bay. Choose the same size ABS drive as your existing hard drive. ABS drive pulls out easily for safe storage.

3.2GB	$369	6.4GB	$419	10GB	$479
4.3GB	$379	7.6GB	$439	12GB	$499
5.1GB	$399	8.4GB	$439	16GB	$639

ABS with out a hard drive $249

IDE MiniRAID



IDE RAID has never been this easy. Simply install the Mini RAID in a 3.5" drive bay, connect two same size IDE hard drives and bootup. Mini RAID does the rest for you. Totally transparent and requires no special commands. Provides RAID 1 mirroring and features an audible alarm to alert you of drive failure. This is a great product. (MINIRAID) $199

www.dirtcheapdrives.com



DIRT CHEAP

DVD READER

New SMART STORAGE SOLUTIONS
- 3rd generation kit complete with MPEG-2 decoder
- 3rd gen DVD reader, 135ms • 32X CD ROM, 95ms
- IDE interface • Supports CDR and CDRW media

Complete Kit (SSSDVD3KIT) $219

TOSHIBA SDM1202 3rd Generation DVD
- 4.8X DVD reader, 135ms • 32X CD ROM, 95ms
- IDE interface •256K buffer • Supports CDR & CDRW media

Bare Drive (SDM1202) $145

PIONEER
- 4.8X DVD reader, 120ms • 32X CD ROM, 90ms
- 512K buffer • Supports CDR & CDRW media

Bare IDE Drive (DVD103) $135
Bare SCSI Drive (DVD303) $169

SIGMA DESIGNS
- Award Winning PCI based MPEG-2 decoder board (HOLLYWOOD) $99

WAVELINK PC TO TV TRANSMITTER
- View DVD movie titles on TV without the use of wires.
- 2.4GHz signal penetrates walls, floors, and ceilings.
- Operates up to 300 feet away.
- Sends and receives crisp color and stereo audio.
- Also works with many other video/audio sources.

(PCTOTV) $169 or $159 with any DVD drive

CREATIVE LABS
- Encore DVD 5X kit includes: 170ms 5X DVD drive
- Reads CDs at 32X, 100ms • MPEG-2 decoder
- DVD Titles (CLDVD5KIT) $225

DVD RAM

For more visit www.dirtcheapdrives.com/dvdram

TOSHIBA
- DVD-RAM 1x, 120ms • DVD-ROM 2x, 210ms
- CD-ROM 16x, 140ms • 256K buffer
- Reads DVD-ROM, DVD-R, DVD-Video, Video CD, CD-ROM, CD-Audio, CD-R, and CD-RW disks.

Bare SCSI drive (SDW1101) $459

PANASONIC
- DVD-RAM 1x, 120ms • DVD-ROM 2x, 85ms
- CD-ROM 20x, 85ms • 2MB buffer
- Reads DVD-ROM, DVD-R, DVD-Video, Video CD, CD-ROM, CD-Audio, CD-R, CD-RW, and PD disks.

Bare SCSI drive (LFD101U) $569

DVD RAM MEDIA
5.2GB media (DVDRAMDISK) 1-4/5-9/10+ $40/$37/$35



PIONEER
SLOT LOAD
Slot load drives are really cool! No more awkward caddies or trays! Just insert your CD as you would in your car stereo.

36X SCSI CD ROM, 70ms $85 #DRU706S

Portable CD ROM



- PCMCIA (PC Card) Type II or III.
- Only 6.72" L x 5.92" W x .88" H
- Fast 24x, 150ms speed
- Audio jack for earphone
- Wall transformer or battery pack

(PCMCIA24X) $189



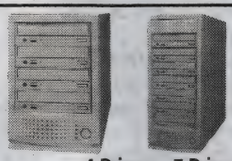
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SCSI CD ROM

Speed	Brand	Model	ms	Buffer	Int	Ext
24X	NEC	CDR1810	85	128K	$70	$160
32X	NEC	CDR1910	85	128K	$85	$175
32X	Toshiba	XM6201B	85	128K	$89	$179
32X	Teac	CD532S	85	128K	$95	$185
32X	Plextor	PX32TS(tray)	85	512K	$115	$205
32X	Plextor	PX32CS(caddy)	85	512K	$159	$249
36X	Pioneer	DRU706S	70	128K	$85	$175
40X	Toshiba	XM6401B	79	256K	$95	$185
40X	Plextor	PX40TS	85	512K	$139	$229
WIDE SCSI CD ROM						
40X	Plextor	PX40TSUW	85	512K	$169	$279
SCSI CD CHANGERS						
Speed	Brand	Model	ms	# Disks	Int	Ext
16X	Nakamichi	MJS16	130	5	$199	$289
24X	Pioneer	DRM6324X	90	6	n/a	$419

ACCESSORIES
Universal sound cable (AUDIOMIX) $9
CD driver software for Macintosh (RAPIDPD) $19
CD Caddies (CDCADDY) 5-19 $5.9 20+ $3.4
Pioneer 6 disk magazine (DRMA600) 2-4 $29 5+ $24

Smart STORAGE SOLUTIONS



SCSI Towers			4 Drives	7 Drives
NEC	24X	85ms	$459	$799
Plextor	32X	85ms	$699	$1199
Pioneer	36X	70ms	$549	$899
Plextor	40X	85ms	$999	$1739
Toshiba	40X	79ms	$599	$999
Nakamichi	16X	5 disk changer	$1069	$1869

IDE CD ROM

Speed	Brand	Model	ms	Buffer	Int	Kit
32X	Toshiba	XM6202B	80	256K	$63	$93
32X	Teac	CD532E	84	128K	$67	$97
34X	Mitsumi	CRMCFX34X	85	256K	$59	$89
40X	Pioneer	DRU944	70	128K	$64	$94
40X	NEC	CDR3000	75	128K	$66	$96
40X	Toshiba	XM6502B	85	256K	$73	$103
48X	Memorex	CD48X	90	128K	$75	$105

Need to make an internal a high speed external? Call for details.

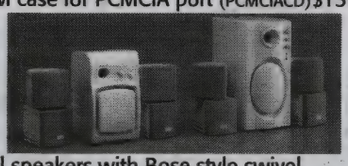
IDE CD CHANGERS

Speed	Brand	Model	ms	# Disks	Int	Kit
16X	Nakamichi	MJS16A	130	5	$129	$159

Kit includes drive, CD ROM controller, & data cable.

ACCESSORIES
Buy a CD drive & sound card & get a FREE audio cable.
PCI 128 Sound Blaster (SBPCI128) $75
NEW Sound Blaster Live PCI 256 (SBPCI256) $182
NEW Sound Blaster Live PCI 256 Value (SBI256VALUE) $100
Universal sound cable (AUDIOMIX) $9
IDE CD ROM case for parallel printer port (PPCASECD) $89
IDE CD ROM case for PCMCIA port (PCMCIACD) $139

Super Sounding Speaker Sets



Professional speakers with Bose style swivel speakers and separate subwoofer. "Delivered the best listening experience" Computer Shopper
25 Watt (SPEAKERJR) $89 35 Watt (SPEAKERPRO) $119

TAPE BACKUP

Seagate See page 8 for backup software.

Minicartridge
- Includes 1 FREE tape, cable, manual, Win/NTWS backup software

ATAPI (IDE)	Internal	External	Extra Tapes
TR4 4-8gig (STT28000A)	***$195***	***$325***	***$25*** (TR4)
TR5 10-20gig (STT220000A)	***$405***	***$535***	***$43*** (TR5)
SCSI			
TR4 4-8gig (STT28000N)	***$219***	***$299***	***$25*** (TR4)

SCSI RCVT Includes NT & Netware server software only. Features hardware data compression.

TR4 4-8gig (STT28000NC)	***$365***	***$455***	***$25*** (TR4)
TR5 10-20gig (STT220000N)	***$529***	***$619***	***$43*** (TR5)

iomega

	Alone	With HD Purchase	Tapes w/ drive
7Gig Ditto Max			
Internal (DITTOMAXI)	***$175***	***$169***	***$27*** (DITTO7)
Parallel External (DITTOMAXX)	***$175***	***$169***	***$27*** (DITTO7)
10Gig Ditto Max Professional			
Internal (DITTOMAXPRO)	***$265***	***$259***	***$31*** (DITTO10)
Parallel External (DITTOMAXPRX)	***$265***	***$259***	***$31*** (DITTO10)

HEWLETT PACKARD

Minicartridge
- Includes 1 FREE tape, manual, DOS/Win backup software

SCSI	Internal	External	Extra Tapes
TR5 10-20Gig (C4394A)	***$419***	***$509***	***$43*** (TR5)

INDIGITA 6GB
SCSI 4mm DAT tape drive includes software that allows the drive to be used as a standard disk drive under Windows (IDT2500) $489

EXABYTE — extra tapes with drive purchase

7-14Gig	8mm, 120MB/min, ELIANT820	$1259	$15 (DAT160M8MM)
20-40Gig	8mm, 360MB/min, EXB8900	$2489	$95(AME170)
70-140Gig	8mm, 60MB/min, EXB10H	$2699	$15(DAT160M8MM)

HEWLETT PACKARD — We include 5 1/4" mounting hardware with HP DAT!

4-8Gig	DDS-2 DAT, 60MB/min, C1599AI	$719	$13(DAT120M)
12-24Gig	DDS-3 DAT, 120MB/min, C1554AI	$929	$25(DAT125M)
72-144Gig	DDS-3 DAT, 120MB/min, C5648A	$2679	$25(DAT125M)

Seagate — We include 5 1/4" mounting hardware with Seagate DAT!

2-4Gig	DAT-DC, 66MB/min, STD24000N	$539	$10(DAT90M)
4Gig	Mini, 30MB/min, STT28000N	$219	$25(TR4)
4-8Gig	Mini, 60MB/min, STT28000NC	$365	$25(TR4)
4-8Gig	DDS-2 DAT, 66MB/min, STD28000N	$625	$13(DAT120M)
10-20Gig	Mini, 100MB/min STT2200BARE	$439	$43 (TR5)
12-24Gig	DDS-3 DAT, 132MB/min, STD224000N	$849	$25(DAT125M)
25-50Gig	AIT, 360MB/min, STA250000W	$2199	$87 (AIT170MTAPE)
48-96Gig	DDS-2 DAT, 48MB/min, STL496000N	$2159	$13(DAT120M)

SONY — We include 5 1/4" mounting hardware with Sony DAT !

4-8Gig	DDS-2 DAT, 90MB/min, SDT7000AI	$559	$13(DAT120M)
12-24Gig	DDS-3 DAT, 144MB/min, SDT9000AI	$759	$25(DAT125M)
NEW! 20-40Gig	DDS-4 DAT, 288MB/min, SDT10000AI	$1129	$call(DAT150M)
32-64Gig	DDS-2 DAT loader, 90MB/min, TSL7000	$1899	$13(DAT120M)

Quantum — Find a lower price? Give us a call.

15-30Gig DLT, 150MB/min, DLT2000XT	$799	$39(DLT3XT)
External, our case, DLT2000XTX	$899	$39(DLT3XT)
20-40Gig DLT, 180MB/min, DLT4000	$1859	$79(DLT4)
External, our case, DLT4000X	$1959	$79(DLT4)
External, Quantum case, DLT4000QX	$2069	$79(DLT4)
35-70Gig DLT, 600MB/min, DLT7000	$4575	$79(DLT4)
External, our case, DLT7000X	$4675	$79(DLT4)
External, Quantum case, DLT7000QX	$4779	$79(DLT4)

DLT MEDIA SALE	1-4	5-9	10-49	50+
DLTIII 10-20GB (DLT3)	$38	$35	$35	$31
DLTIII XT 15-30GB (DLT3XT)	$40.5	$38	$36	$34
DLTIV 20-40GB (DLT4)	$74	$70	$68	$66
DLT Cleaning tape (DLTCLEAN)	$41	$40	$38	$36

DIRT CHEAP DRIVES 1-800-473-0960

DRIVES 800-473-0960

CALL M-F 8AM-8PM, SAT 9-3 CST

24HR ORDERING WWW.DIRTCHEAPDRIVES.COM

CONTROLLERS

DPT Distributed Processing Technology

Other DPT products available. Call for pricing.

PM2554U2 PCI Ultra-2 with Raid 0, 1 support	$409
PM2554U2-2 twin channel of above	$549
PM2554U2-3 three channel of above	$669
PM1554U2 PCI Ultra-2 w/RAID 0, 1, 5, 0+1, 0+5, & 4MB	$479
PM2654U2R16 Ultra-2 w/RAID 0, 1, 5, 0+1, 0+5, & 16MB	$719
PM2654U2R26 twin channel of above	$849
PM2654U2RF16M Fibre Channel & U2 SCSI RAID	$1089
SM4050/16 16MB ECC EDO Memory	$99
SM4050/16 16MB ECC EDO Memory	$319

gsi

1533-1C	**Supports 2 IDE drives**	**$35**
1533-2C	Supports 4 EIDE	$49
1533-4C	Supports 8 IDE drives	$114

ARCO IDE RAID CONTROLLER

- Hardware RAID 1(mirroring) works with most operating systems.
- Jumperless design, 100% data redundancy, 4 drive support
- Works off of existing IDE controller

ISA (ARDUPLIDISK) $209 PCI (ARDUPLIPCI) $209

ADVANSYS

High-Performance Bus Mastering SCSI, Adaptec compatible

ABP925 PCI 32Bit Fast SCSI-2	**$89**
ABP940U PCI 32Bit Ultra SCSI	**$99**
ABP940UW PCI 32Bit Ultra Wide SCSI	**$139**
ABP980U PCI 32Bit Ultra SCSI 4 Channel for 28 drives!	$379

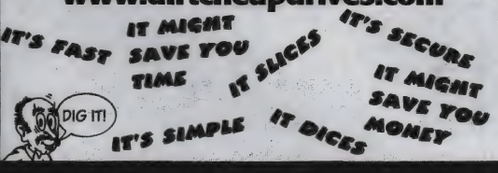
PROMISE TECHNOLOGY, INC.

ULTRA66	PCI, Supports New Ultra-66 IDE drives	$69
ULTRA33	PCI, Supports Ultra IDE drives	$59
EIDEMAX	ISA, Supports 2 IDE drives	$38
EIDEPRO	ISA, Supports 4 IDE, & High speed IO	$59
FASTTRAK	PCI, IDE RAID controller	$139

Adaptec

		BARE	KIT
1520	ISA 16Bit SCSI, Floppy	$74	$113
1542	ISA 16Bit Busmaster SCSI, Floppy	$189	$245
2940U	PCI 32Bit Ultra SCSI (Bus Master)	$153	$229
2940UW	PCI 32Bit Ultra WIDE SCSI (Bus Master)	$175	$265
2930U2W	PCI 32Bit Ultra-2 SCSI (Bus Master)	$185	$265
2940U2W	PCI 32Bit Ultra-2 SCSI (Bus Master)	$229	$330
1505	ISA 16Bit SCSI (no hard drive support)		$55
2742W	EISA 32Bit WIDE SCSI, Floppy		$369
2906E	PCI 32Bit SCSI (For PC or Mac)		$62
2920	PCI 32Bit SCSI (PIO)		$114
2944WD	PCI 32Bit WIDE Diff. SCSI (Bus Master)		$389
T358A	EPP Parallel to SCSI adapter		$125
T1450B	PCMCIA to SCSI (WIN95 only)		$99
T1460A2KIT	PCMCIA type 2, 3, or 4 to SCSI		$169
T1480A	CardBus to Ultra SCSI		$199
A3940	Twin Channel PCI SCSI (14 Drives)		$379
A3940UW	Twin Channel PCI Ultra WIDE SCSI		$469 or $439 w/HD
AAA131	PCI RAID controller		$429
AAA131CA	PCI RAID for NT workstation, 16MB cache		$509
AAA133	PCI WIDE RAID 3 channel controller		$589
AF940	32 Bit PCI Fibre Channel controller		$739
AF950	64 Bit PCI Fibre Channel controller		$829
AHA8945	32 Bit PCI 1394 & UW controller		$549

www.dirtcheapdrives.com



DRIVE CASES



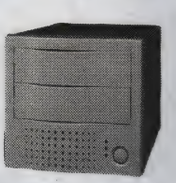
3 1/2" Drive Case

SCSI closed face (3.5CASE)	$75
SCSI 1" open face (3.5CASE1)	$75
SCSI 1.6" open face (3.5CASE1.6)	$75
Wide SCSI closed face (3.5CASEW)	$109
Parallel/IDE closed face (PPCASEHD)	$89
Parallel/IDE 1"open face(PPCASEHD1)	$89
PCMCIA/IDE closed face(PCMCIA3.5)	$139
PCMCIA/IDE 1"open face(PCMCIA3.51)	$139



5 1/4" Drive Case

SCSI closed face (HHCASET)	$75
SCSI open face (HHCASEOPENT)	$75
Wide SCSI closed face (HHCASETW)	$109
Ultra-2 SCSI closed face (HHCASETU2)	$129
Parallel/IDE closed face (PPCASECDC)	$89
Parallel/IDE open face(PPCASECD)	$89
PCMCIA/IDE closed face(PCMCIACDC)	$139
PCMCIA/IDE open face(PCMCIACD)	$139



Two Drive Case

Holds two half height or one full height drive.

SCSI (FHCASE)	$109
Wide SCSI (FHCASEW)	$169
Ultra-2 SCSI (FHCASEU2)	$189

Dual 3 1/2" drive model (not shown)

SCSI (DUAL3.5CASE)	$99
Wide SCSI (DUAL3.5CW)	$159
Ultra-2 SCSI (DUAL3.5CU2)	$179



Four Drive Case

Holds four half height or two full height drives.

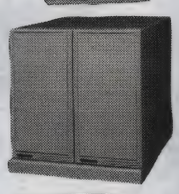
SCSI (DUALCASET)	$189
Wide SCSI (DUALCASETW)	$269
Ultra-2 SCSI (DUALCASETU2)	$299



Eight Drive Case

Holds Eight half height or Four full height drives.

SCSI (TOWERCASET)	$369
Wide SCSI (TOWERCASETW)	$469
Ultra-2 SCSI (TOWERCASETU2)	$529



Fourteen Drive Case

Holds 14 half height or Six full height drives.

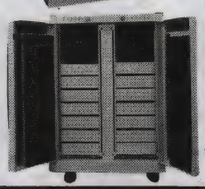
SCSI (14BAYCASE)	$599
Wide SCSI (14BAYCASEW)	$749
Ultra-2 SCSI (14BAYCASEU2)	$889



Eighteen Drive Case

Holds 18 half height or Eight full height drives.

SCSI (18BAYCASE)	$839
Wide SCSI (18BAYCASEW)	$1039
Ultra-2 SCSI (18BAYCASEU2)	$1219



Twenty Drive Case

Holds 20 half height or Ten full height drives.

SCSI (20BAYCASE)	$1499
Wide SCSI (20BAYCASEW)	$1719
Ultra-2 SCSI (20BAYCASEU2)	$1919

Models available with redundant hot swap power supplies.

OPTICAL DRIVES

650MB PD Media (PD650A) 2-4/5-9/10+ $26/22/20

MAXOPTIX

2.6Gig • (1.3Gig, 650MB r/w compatible) SCSI-2, 1MB buffer, 19ms

Internal (T5-2600) / External (T5-2600X) $1029 /$1129

5.2Gig • (2.6GB,1.3GB,1GB, 650MB compatible) SCSI-2, 4MB buffer

Internal (T6-5200) / External (T6-5200X) $1499 /$1599

Maxoptix 5.2 Media 1-4/5-9/10+ (MAX5.2) $83/$80/$77

SONY

5.2Gig • (2.6GB,1.3GB, 650MB r/w compatible) SCSI-2, 4MB buffer

Internal (SMOF551)/ External (SMOF551X) $1499 /$1599

***TEIJIN OPTICAL MEDIA* - Lifetime Warranty**

Size	Cat #	Description	2-4	5-9	10+
128MB	TJ128	3.5", 512K	$13	$9	$7
230MB	TJ230	3.5", 512K	$14	$10	$8
640MB	TJ640	3.5", 2048K	$21	$17	$15
1.3Gig	TJ1.3	5.25", 1024K	$26	$22	$20
2.3Gig	TJ2.3	5.25", 512K	$30	$26	$24
2.6Gig	TJ2.6	5.25", 1024K	$33	$29	$27
5.2Gig	TJ5.2	5.25", 2048K	$70	$68	$64

Call or visit our web site for media not listed.

BACKUP SOFTWARE

Seagate Backup Exec

Windows 95 & 98 [SBEWDWD]	$69
Windows NT workstation [SBENTWD]	$99
Windows NT single server [SBENTSE]	$459
Windows NT multi server [SBENTME]	$879
Small Business Server Suite [SBENTSB]	$259
Netware single server & 25 users [SBENW25]	$319
Netware single server & unlimited users [SBENWSE]	$459
Netware multi server [SBENWME]	$879

Indigita

TapeTrax software allows most SCSI tape drives to be used as a standard disk drive under Win95 [TAPETRAX] $89

NovaStor

NovaWorks CD contains backup software for DOS, Win 3.1, Windows 95, Win NT, Macintosh, and OS/2 Compatible with SCSI, IDE, and QIC drives [NOVACD] $65

Novell NLM single server [NOVANWSE]	$229
Novell NLM multi server and 25 users [NOVANW]	$539
Novell NLM multi server & unlimited users [NOVANWUNL]	$759
NT server [NOVANTSE]	$229
NT server and unlimited users [NOVANT]	$379
NT unlimited servers & unlimited users [NOVANTUNL]	$759

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REFERENCE SOURCE DIRECTORY

GUIDE TO ADVERTISERS

When buying direct, you need to choose not only a product, but the vendor from which you'll buy it. *Computer Shopper*'s Source Directory gives you addresses, phone numbers, and other information about mail-order PC, hardware, and software sellers, listed alphabetically. The directory includes both sales and tech-support numbers. The section also lists business hours, plus ordering, shipping, and warranty policies.

Company Name	Business Hours	Phones	Technical Support	Volume Discount	Reseller Discount	Financing Options	Leasing Options	Payment Options	Overnight Shipping	Warranty Policy	Money-Back Guarantee (Days)	Restocking Fee	Credit Card Surcharge
1st Compu Choice 740 Beta Drive, Unit G Mayfield Village, OH 44143	M-F 9-7 Sat Sat 10-5 EST	800-345-8880 F216-460-1066	M-F 10-5 EST 800-421-4640	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,MO,MC,DI CK,CD	Y	1 yr parts/3 yr systems	30	N	N
3Com Corp 5400 Baufront Plaza Santa Clara, CA 95054	Daily 7-6 PST	800-638-3266	24 hrs 800-876-3266	Y	Y	Y	N	NA	Y	1yr	N	N	N
A Fair Fax Trading Co 1403 44 St Brooklyn, NY 11219	Sun-Th 9-7 F 9-4 EST	800-499-1998 F718-437-0543	Same	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,DC,CK,CD AE	Y	Manuf	30	Varies	N
A Matter of FAX 65 Worth St New York, NY 10013	M-Th 9:30-6 F 9:30-2 Sun 11-4 EST	800-433-3329 212-941-8877 F212-226-1230	M-Th 10-5 F 10-2 EST 212-431-5426	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Varies/30 day	N	Varies	N
A2Z Computers 325 Harris Dr Aurora, OH 44202	M-F 9-9 Sat 10-5 EST	800-983-8889 888-240-5464 F330-995-3357	M-F 9am-12am Sat 9am-10pm EST 216-442-8889	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Replace/5yr	30	N	N
AA Computech 28170 Ave Crocker, Ste 105 Valencia, CA 91355	M-Sat 7-7 PST	800-360-6801 805-257-6801 F805-257-6805	M-F 8-4 PST 805-257-6804	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,DC,CK,CD AE	Y	Replace/90 day	30	20%	N
Aberdeen LLC 9130 Norwalk Blvd Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670	M-F 7-6 PST	800-552-6868 562-699-6998 F562-695-5570	M-F 8-5 PST 800-552-6868	Y	Y	N	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Varies/ 1 yr	35	Varies	N
ABS Computer Technologies 9997 Rose Hills Rd Whittier, CA 90601	M-F 8-5 Sat 9-3 PST	800-876-8088 562-695-8823 F562-695-8923	M-F 8:30-5 PST 800-685-3471	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Manuf/1 yr	30	N	N
Act Soft 8-15 Ilene Ct Belle Mead, NJ 08502	M-F 8am-12am EST	800-560-6234 888-228-7638 F908-359-0833	M-F 10-6 EST 908-359-4219	Y	Y	N	N	VI,MO,MC,DI CK,CD,AE	Y	25 day replace defective item	N	15%	N
Adamant Computers 4572 Renaissance Pkwy Cleveland, OH 44128	M-F 9-8 Sat 10-3 EST	800-284-2257 216-595-1211 F216-595-1430	M-F 9-8 EST 216-595-9985	Y	Y	N	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC CD,AE	Y	3 yr	30	15%	Y
Adtech 522 Boston Post Rd Wayland, MA 01778	M-F 8-6 EST	800-419-0023 508-358-0077 F508-358-0066	24 hrs EST 800-419-0023	Y	Y	N	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC CK,CD,AE	Y	Manuf	7	N	N
ADW 1930 E Marlton Pike Ste C-17 Cherry Hill, NJ 08003	M-F 9-5 Sat-Sun 10-3 EST	888-742-5239 609-489-3500 F609-489-3555	M-F 9-5 EST 888-926-7385	Y	Y	N	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Manuf	7	Varies	N
AeroComm 13228 W 92nd St Lenexa, KS 66215	M-F 8-5 CST	800-492-2320 F913-492-1243	M-F 8-5 CST 800-492-2320	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC CK,CD,AE	Y	1 yr	30	15%	N
All Computer Technology (ACT) 224 S 5th Ave City of Industry, CA 91746	M-F 8:30-5 PST	800-775-1953 626-369-4181 F626-961-7462	M-F 9-4:30 PST 626-369-4181	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC CK,CD,AE	N	1 yr	30	15%	Y
Alphacom 23632 Mercantile Rd Unit L Beachwood, OH 44122	M-F 9-9 EST	800-822-8864 216-514-2945 F216-514-2944	M-F 9-5 EST 800-822-8864	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	3yr systems/1yr parts	14	20%	N
American Microsystems 2190 Regal Pkwy Euless, TX 76040	M-F 8:30-5:30 CST	800-648-4452 F817-685-6232	M-F 8:30-5:30 CST 800-648-4452	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC CK,CD,AE	Y	1 yr	30	N	N
American Power Conversion Corp 132 Fairgrounds Rd West Kingston, RI 02892	M-F 8:30-5:30 EST	800-800-4272 800-890-4272 F401-789-3180	M-Th 8:30-8 F 8:30-7 EST 800-800-4272	Y	N	N	N	VI,PO,MC,CD	Y	2 yr	N	N	Y

Company Name	Business Hours	Phones	Technical Support	Volume Discount	Reseller Discount	Financing Options	Leasing Options	Payment Options	Overnight Shipping	Warranty Policy	Money-Back Guarantee (Days)	Restocking Fee	Credit Card Surcharge
American Ribbon & Toner Co 2895 W Prospect Rd Ft Lauderdale, FL 33309	M-F 8-6 Sat 10-3 EST	800-327-1013 305-733-4552 F305-733-0319	M-F 8-4 EST 800-327-1013	Y	Y	Y	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	1 yr	30	20%	N
Americomp 5380 E Naiman Pkwy Solon, OH 44139	M-F 9-7 Sat 10-3 EST	800-217-2667 216-498-9620 F216-498-9630	M-F 9-7 EST 216-498-9620	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD	Y	3 yr	30	15%	N
Amp Tech 30700 Carter ST Solon, OH 44139	M-F 8-9 Sat 9-5 Sun 12-5 EST	800-619-0508 440-498-2240 F440-498-0114	M-F 9:30-6 EST 888-486-4276	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	5 yr parts & labor	30	15%	N
AMS 12881 Ramona Blvd Irwindale, CA 91706	M-F 6-6 Sat 9-3 PST	800-868-8148 626-814-8851 F626-814-0782	Same 800-886-3536	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	3 yr	30	N	N
ARM Computer 1637 S Main St Milpitas, CA 95035	M-F 7-6:30 Sat-Sun 8-4 PST	800-765-1767 408-935-9800 F408-935-9192	M-F 8-6:30 Sat 8-4 PST 800-765-1767	Y	Y	N	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	3 yr	30	N	N
AV Marketplace 6313 Benjamin Rd, Ste 110 Tampa, FL 33634	M-F 8-5 EST	800-282-6733 813-884-7168 F813-882-9508	M-F 8-5 EST 800-282-6733	N	N	N	Y	VI,PO,MC,CK CD,AE	Y	Manuf/1-3 yr	30	15%	N
Aventec Direct 5978 Heisley Rd Mentor, OH 44060	M-F 10-8 Sat 10-5 EST	800-898-9494 F440-918-7263	M-F 10-6 EST 440-918-7265	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Manuf/varies	30	0-15%	N
Axis Systems 1000 S Melrose St Unit A Placentia, CA 92870	M-F 8-6 Sat-Sun 10-4 PST	800-378-9014 714-238-9027 F714-238-9206	Same for parts/ 24hrs 800-340-0944	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Varies/ 1-3 yr	30	N	N
Bason Computers 20130 Plummer St Chatsworth, CA 91311	M-Sat 9-6 PST	800-238-4453 818-727-9054 F818-727-9064	Same 818-727-9054	Y	Y	Y	N	VI,MC,DI,CK CD,AE	Y	5 yr	30	25%	N
Bear Rock Technology 4140 Mother Lode Dr, Ste 100 Shingle Springs, CA 95682	M-F 8-12 & 1-5 PST	800-232-7625 916-672-0244 F916-672-1103	M-F 9-12 & 1-4 PST 916-672-0450	Y	Y	N	N	VI,MO,MC,DI CK,CD,AE	Y	Varies	Varies	N	N
Big City Express 96 Hobart St Hackensack, NJ 07601	M-F 8-8 Sat 12-4 EST	888-223-2489 201-457-9044 F201-457-9576	*	Y	Y	N	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,AE	Y	Manuf	30	10%	N
BOLData Systems 48363 Fremont Blvd Fremont, CA 94538	M-F 8:30 - 5:30 PST	800-923-2653 510-490-8296 F510-490-7981	M-F 8:30 - 5:30 PST 800-923-2653	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC CK,CD	Y	Varies	30	N	N
Boxlight Corp 17771 Fjord Dr NE Poulsbo, WA 98370	M-F 7-5 PST	800-762-5757 F360-779-6470	M-F 6:30-4:30 PST 800-762-5757	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,MC,AE	Y	1-3 yr	30	Varies	N
BSI 9440 Telstar Ave, Ste 4 El Monte, CA 91731	M-F 7-6 PST	800-872-4547 626-442-0020 F626-442-4527	M-F 8:30-5:30 PST 626-442-7038	Y	N	Y	Y	PO,MO,CK,CD	Y	1 yr parts/labor	15	10%	N
Cables America 824 Leo St Dayton, OH 45404	M-F 8:30-6 EST	800-348-8724 F800-329-8725	M-F 8:30-6 EST	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MC,CK CD,AE	Y	Varies	30	15%	N
Cables Plus 6090 H McDonough Dr Norcross, GA 30093	M-F 9-5:30 EST	888-794-9600 770-797-9600 F770-797-9601	M-F 9-5:30 EST 770-797-9600	Y	Y	N	N	VI,MC	Y	Varies/1yr - life	30	15%	N
Cables To Go 1501 Webster St Dayton, OH 45404	M-F 8:30-6 EST	800-225-8646 513-224-8646 F800-331-2841	M-F 8:30-6 EST 800-225-8646	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC CK,CD,AE	Y	Varies	30	15%	N
CAD Warehouse 6703 International Ave Cypress, CA 90630	M-F 9-9 EST	800-811-3265 F714-816-2297	M-F 9-9 EST 888-292-1366	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Manuf	30	15%	N
Cadd Engineering Supply 8601 73rd Ave N, Ste 11 Brooklyn Park, MN 55428	M-F 7:30-5:30 CST	800-704-3337 F612-536-0301	M-F 8-5 CST 612-536-0624	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC CK	Y	Varies	15	15%	N
Cambridge Computer Systems 4420 S 108 St Greenfield, WI 53228	M-F 9-7 Sat 9-2 CST	800-525-9498 F414-525-2006	M-F 9-7 CST 414-525-2011	Y	Y	N	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC AE	Y	1 yr parts/life labor	*	15%	N
Case Depot 14102 E Firestone Blvd Sante Fe Springs, CA 90670	M-F 8:30-5 Sat 9-2 PST	800-200-6118 F310-404-8525	M-F 8:30-5 PST 310-404-9725	Y	N	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,AE	Y	1 yr	30	15%	N
CDW Computer Centers 200 N Milwaukee Ave Vernon Hills, IL 60061	M-F 7-9 Sat 9-5 CST	800-726-4239 847-465-6000 F847-465-6800	M-F 7-9 Sat 9-5 CST 800-383-4239	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,AE	Y	Manuf	30	Varies	N
Circo Technology Corp 148 8th Ave, #D City of Industry, CA 91746	M-F 9-6 PST	800-678-1688 626-369-5779 F626-369-2769	M-F 9-6 PST 800-678-1688	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC CK,CD	Y	1 yr	30	15%	N

SOURCE DIRECTORY

GUIDE TO ADVERTISERS

Company Name	Business Hours	Phones	Technical Support	Volume Discount	Reseller Discount	Financing Options	Leasing Options	Payment Options	Overnight Shipping	Warranty Policy	Money-Back Guarantee (Days)	Restocking Fee	Credit Card Surcharge
Comp Direct 417 Fifth Ave New York, NY 10016	Daily 9-8 EST	800-931-7070 212-696-4777 F212-696-5820	Same	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,DC,CK,CD AE	Y	Manuf	10	N	N
Comp-U-Plus 20 Robert Pitt Dr Monsey, NY 10952	M-Th 8:30-9 F 8:30-5:30 Sun 10-6 EST	800-287-2323 800-287-8786 F914-352-0076	M-F 10-6 EST 914-352-8100	Y	Y	N	N	VI,MO,MC,DI CK,CD,AE	Y	2-5 yr	30	N	N
Compaq Direct Plus 20555 SH 249 Houston, TX 77070	M-F 7-7 Sat 9-3 CST	800-888-5858	24 hrs 800-345-1518	N	N	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC CK,AE	Y	3 yr	30	N	N
Compaq Works 10251 N Freeway Houston, TX 77037	M-F 8-7 Sat 10-5 CST	800-318-6919 F713-927-6798	24 hrs 800-652-6672	N	N	N	N	VI,MO,MC,DI CK,AE	Y	Varies/90 day	7	Varies	N
ComputAbility P.O. Box 17882 Milwaukee, WI 53217	M-F 8-8 Sat 9-5 CST	800-558-0003 414-357-8181 F414-357-7814	M-F 9-5 CST 414-357-8181	Y	N	N	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,AE	Y	Varies	N	5%	N
Computer Gate Int'l 2960 Gordon Ave Santa Clara, CA 95051	M-F 6-6 Sat 8am-2pm PST	408-730-0673 F408-730-0735	M-F 9-5 PST	Y	N	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC CK,CD	Y	Varies	30	15%	N
Comtrade 1215 Bixby Dr City of Industry, CA 91745	M-F 7-7 Sat 9-6 PST	800-969-2123 626-969-6688 F626-369-1479	M-F 9-6 PST 800-899-4508	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MC,CK CD	Y	1 yr	30	N	N
Comtrend 39186 State St Fremont, CA 94538	M-F 7-6PM Sat 8-4 PST	888-266-8763 510-744-0950 F510-744-0952	M-F 8-5 PST 510-471-9452	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC	Y	Manuf	30	15%	N
Corporate Raider 1449 39 St Brooklyn, NY 11218	M-Th 9-8 F 9-5 Sun 10-6 EST	800-453-3555 718-633-9100 F718-633-7841	M-Th 10-5 F 10-3 EST 800-453-3555	Y	Y	N	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,DC,CD,AE	Y	Manuf	30	20%	N
Cougar Mountain Software 7180 Potomac Dr, Ste D Boise, ID 83704	M-F 6-6 MST	800-388-3038 F208-375-4460	Same 800-727-0656	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC CK,CD,AE	Y	Varies/60 day	60	15%	N
CPU 2355 N Steves Blvd, Ste C Flagstaff, AZ 86004	M-F 7-5 MST	800-278-3480 602-396-3616 F602-396-0483	Same 602-396-3616	Y	Y	Y	N	VI,PO,MO,MC CK,CD	Y	1 yr	30	15%	N
Crucial Technology (div of Micron) 8000 S Federal Way Boise, ID 83707	M-F 7-8 Sat 10-2 MST	800-336-8924 F208-368-3342	M-F 7-8 Sat 10-2 MST 800-336-8916	Y	Y	Y	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,AE	Y	Life-original purchaser only	30	N	N
CyberMax 133 N 5th St Allentown, PA 18102	M-Th 9-12 F 9-9 Sat 9-6 Sun 12-5 EST	800-443-9868 F800-599-7576	24 hrs 800-291-9868	Y	Y	N	Y	VI,PO,MC,DI CD,AE	N	3yr parts/ 1 yr labor	30	N	N
Dalco Electronics 275 S Pioneer Blvd Springboro, OH 45066	M-F 8-6:30 Sat 10-4 EST	800-445-5342 513-743-8042 F513-743-9251	Same 800-543-2526	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Varies	30	Varies	N
Data Vision 30 Indian Dr Ivyland, PA 18974	M-F 8-8 EST	800-486-0620 800-486-9585 F215-396-0325	M-F 7:30-7:30 EST 800-486-0620	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Varies	30	N	N
Dee One Systems 1550 Centre Pointe Dr Milpitas, CA 95035	M-F 8-6 Sat 10-4 PST	800-831-8808 408-262-8938 F408-262-2826	M-F 9-5 Sat 10-4 PST 800-831-8885	Y	N	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC CK,CD	Y	6 mo	30	15%	N
Dell Computer Corp 9505 Arboretum Blvd Austin, TX 78759	M-F 7-9 Sat 8-4 Sun 10-3 CST	800-426-5150 F800-727-8320	24 hrs 800-624-9896	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MC,DI CK,AE	Y	1 yr	30	N	N
Dell Factory Outlet 8801 Research Blvd Austin, TX 78758	M-F 8-7 CST	800-336-2891 800-283-8991 F512-728-5659	24 hrs 800-624-9896	Y	Y	N	Y	VI,MO,MC,DI CK,AE	N	Varies	7	N	N
Direct P.O.S. 7978 Fairview Boise, ID 83704	M-F 7-6 MST	888-376-8144 F208-376-8143	M-F 8-4:30 MST 208-376-8141	Y	Y	N	Y	VI,MO,MC,DI CD,AE	Y	90 day	Varies	Varies	N
Dirt Cheap Drives 3716 Timber Dr Dickinson, TX 77539	M-F 8-8 Sat 9-3 CST	800-473-0960 281-534-6292 F281-534-6452	M-F 8-5 CST 281-534-6292	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Varies	30	15%	N
Diskettes Unlimited 6206 Long Dr Houston, TX 77087	M-F 9-5 CST	800-364-3475 713-643-9939 F713-643-2722	M-F 9-5 CST 713-643-9939	Y	N	N	N	VI,MO,MC,CK CD	Y	Replace	30	N	N
EDO Micro Technology 15929 E Valley Blvd City of Industry, CA 91745	M-Sat 7-6 PST	888-336-9960 F626-336-3314	M-Sat 7-6 PST 888-336-9966	Y	N	N	N	VI,MO,MC,CD AE	Y	Manuf/ 3yr parts, 1yr labor	30	20%	N
Envisions Solutions Technology 3485 Kifer Rd Santa Clara, CA 95051	Daily 7-7 PST	800-365-7226 408-735-0200 F408-735-0222	M-F 6:30-5 PST 800-469-8629	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,AE	Y	Manuf/1 yr	30	N	N

Company Name	Business Hours	Phones	Technical Support	Volume Discount	Reseller Discount	Financing Options	Leasing Options	Payment Options	Overnight Shipping	Warranty Policy	Money-Back Guarantee (Days)	Restocking Fee	Credit Card Surcharge
Eutronics 17200 Westgrove #714 Addison, TX 75001	M-F 12pm-8pm CST	972-250-6567 F972-250-6567	Same	Y	Y	N	N	VI,MO,MC,CK AE	Y	Manuf/30 day-3 yr	30	10%	N
Ever Han Corp 5122 Walnut Grove Ave San Gabriel, CA 91776	M-F 8-5:30 PST	800-253-2531 818-309-1103 F818-309-1107	M-F 9-5 PST 818-309-1108	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Replace/1 yr	30	15%	N
ForeFront Direct 25400 US Hwy 19 N, Ste 285 Clearwater, FL 34623	M-F 9-6 EST	800-475-5831 813-724-8994 F813-726-6992	M-F 9-6 EST 813-725-2755	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Varies/30 day	Varies	15%	Y
Gateway 2000 610 Gateway Dr North Sioux City, SD 57049	M-F 7-10 Sat 9-4 CST	800-846-2000 605-232-2000 F605-232-2023	24 hrs 800-846-2000	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CD,AE	Y	3 yr	30	N	N
H&J Electronics International 2700 W Cypress Creek Rd Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309	M-F 8-7 Sat 9-12 EST	800-275-2447 954-971-7750 F954-979-9028	M-F 10-5 EST 954-971-7750	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MC,DI AE	Y	Manuf/ 1yr	N	20%	N
Harmony Computers 1801 Flatbush Ave Brooklyn, NY 11210	M-Th 9-6 F 9-2 Sun 10:30-4:30 EST	800-441-1144 718-692-3232 F718-692-4535	M-Th 9-6 F 9-2 EST 718-692-2828	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MC,DI CK,CD,AE	Y	Varies	Varies	N	N
Interpro Microsystems 46750 Fremont Blvd, Ste 104 Fremont, CA 94538	M-F 7-6 Sat 9-3 PST	800-226-7216 510-226-7226 F510-226-7219	M-F 9-5 PST 510-226-7226	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC CD	Y	1 yr	30	15%	N
Jinco Computers 5122 Walnut Grove Ave San Gabriel, CA 91776	M-F 8-5:30 PST	800-253-2531 818-309-1103 F818-309-1107	M-F 9-5 PST 818-309-1108	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Replace/1 yr	30	15%	N
Kahlon 23255 La Palma Ave Yorba Linda, CA 92887	M-F 8-5 PST	714-694-0006 F714-694-0003	M-F 8-5 PST 714-637-5060	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC CK,CD	Y	Varies	N	20%	N
Keystone Learning Systems Corp 2181 Larsen Pkwy Provo, UT 84606	M-F 7-6 MST	800-748-4838 801-375-8680 F801-373-6872	NA	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC CK,CD,AE	Y	30 day	30	Varies	N
Marine Park Computers 3126 Ave U Brooklyn, NY 11229	M-Th 9:30-8 Fri 9:30-5 Sun 10-7 EST	800-262-0163 F718-891-8408	M-F 10-6 EST 718-769-1186	Y	N	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,DC,CK,CD AE	Y	Manuf	10	5%	N
Media Source 2197 Canton Rd, Ste 210 Marietta, GA 30066	M-F 8:30-7 EST	800-241-8857 770-919-0059 F770-919-9228	M-F 8-7 EST 800-241-8857	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Varies	30	15%	N
Mediastore 2238 N Glassell St, Unit A Orange, CA 92865	M-F 7-6 PST	800-555-5551 714-974-5551 F714-279-1690	M-F 8-5 PST 714-974-5551	Y	Y	N	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Manuf	30	Varies	N
Mega Haus 2201 Pine Dr Dickinson, TX 77539	M-F 8-8 Sat 9-3 CST	800-786-1185 281-534-2630 F281-534-6580	M-F 8-5 CST 281-534-2630	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Varies	30	15%	N
Memory 4 Less 2622 W Lincoln Ave, Ste 104 Anaheim, CA 92801	M-F 9:30-5:30 PST	800-821-3354 F714-821-3361	Same 800-821-3354	Y	Y	N	N	VI,MO,MC,CK CD	Y	1 yr	N	Varies	N
Memory Man 5440 Mounes St #112 Jefferson, LA 70123	M-F 8:30-6 CST	800-634-2298 504-818-2717 F504-818-2820	Same 504-818-2820	Y	N	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,AE	Y	Varies	15	N	N
Micro Pro 5700 Brookpark Rd Cleveland, OH 44129	M-F 9-9 Sat 10-5 Sun 1-5 EST	800-353-3003 216-661-7218 F216-661-2454	M-F 10-6 EST 800-809-6483	Y	Y	N	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Varies	30	Varies	N
Micro Time 35375 Vokes Dr, Ste 106 Eastlake, OH 44095	M-F 9-7 Sat 10-5 EST	800-834-0000 216-954-9640 F216-954-9648	M-F 10-7 EST 216-954-9647	Y	Y	Y	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD	Y	Varies/1-3 yr	30	10%	N
Micron Electronics 900 E Karcher Rd Nampa, ID 83687	M-F 6-10 Sat 7-5 MST	800-347-3490 208-893-3434 F208-893-3424	24 hrs 800-438-3343	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MC,DI CD,AE	Y	Varies	30	N	N
Microsoft Corp 1 Microsoft Way Redmond, WA 98052	M-F 6-6 PST	800-426-9400 425-882-8080 F425-936-7329	Same 425-454-2030	Y	Y	Y	Y	NA	Y	90	Varies	N	Y
MicroWarehouse 1720 Oak St, P.O. Box 847 Lakewood, NJ 08701	24 hrs	800-243-5622 732-370-4779 F732-905-5245	24 hrs 800-660-3222	Y	N	N	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Manuf	N	N	N
MidWest Micro 6910 US Rt 36 E Fletcher, OH 45326	M-F 9-9 Sat 10-4 EST	800-413-9780 F800-862-6622	M-F 9-9 Sat 10-4 EST 800-262-6622	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD	Y	Varies	30	Varies	N
Motherboard Express 333 W State Rd Island Lake, IL 60042	M-Th 8-8 F 8-6 Sat 9-3 CST	800-560-1195 F847-487-4637	M-F 9-4:30 CST 847-487-4639	Y	N	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,AE	Y	Varies	30	15%	N

SOURCE DIRECTORY

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Company Name	Business Hours	Phones	Technical Support	Volume Discount	Reseller Discount	Financing Options	Leasing Options	Payment Options	Overnight Shipping	Warranty Policy	Money-Back Guarantee (Days)	Restocking Fee	Credit Card Surcharge
MSC Computers 151 E Imperial Hwy LaHabra, CA 90631	M-F 8:30-5:30 Sat 9-3 PST	800-550-8783 714-526-1292 F714-526-4055	M-F 10:30-5:30 PST 800-550-8783	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Varies/1-4 yr	N	Varies	N
NETLUX 14180 Live Oak Ave, Unit E Baldwin Park, LA 91706	M-F 8-6 PST	800-789-1780 626-851-9737 F626-851-9837	Same 626-851-9737	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	5 yr	30	N	N
New Age Micro Corp 145 Alpha Pk Highland Hts, OH 44143	M-F 9-9 Sat 10-5 EST	888-639-2432 216-605-0644 F216-605-0944	Same 216-605-0644	Y	Y	N	N	VI,MO,MC,CK CD,AE	Y	1-3 yr	30	20%	N
NIMBLE Technology Corp 16017 Valley Blvd City of Industry, CA 91744	24 hrs	888-780-6111 626-968-8833 F626-968-0278	Same	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Varies	30	N	N
NRI Schools 4401 Connecticut Ave NW Washington, DC 20008	M-F 8-4:45 EST	202-244-1600 F202-244-2047	Same 202-244-1600	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,MC	N	1 yr	NA	NA	N
Nurol Corp 1212 Collier Rd NW Atlanta, GA 30318	M-F 8:30-6:30 EST	800-390-6623 404-352-3587 F404-352-3589	Same 404-352-3587	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CD,AE	Y	1 yr	30	Varies	N
Nutrend 1201 John Reed Ct City of Industry, CA 91745	M-F 8:30-5:30 PST	888-482-6678 626-937-2311 F626-937-2330	Same 626-937-2345	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CD,AE	Y	Varies	30	15%	N
Onsale 1953 Landings Dr Mountain View, CA 94043	24 hrs	415-428-0600 F415-428-0163	N	Y	Y	N	N	VI,MC,DI,AE	Y	Varies	30	N	N
P.O.S. International 5300 N Federal Hwy Ft Lauderdale, FL 33308	M-F 8:30-7 EST	800-646-4767 F954-772-9806	Same 954-772-8995	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC CK,CD,AE	Y	1-5 yr	30	20%	N
Patriot Systems 5757 N Lovers Ln Milwaukee, WI 53225	M-F 8-7 Sat 9-4 CST	800-728-3617 414-760-5300 F414-358-5310	M-F 8-5 CST 800-728-3617	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	1 yr	30	15%	N
PC America/The General Store 60 N Harrison Ave, Ste 40 Congers, NY 10920	M-F 8-7 EST	800-722-6374 914-267-3500 F914-267-3550	Same 914-267-3549	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Manuf	30	N	N
PC Mall 2645 Maricopa St Torrance, CA 90503	24 hrs	800-555-6255 F310-225-4004	M-F 6-6 Sat 8-5 EST 800-760-0300	Y	N	Y	Y	VI,MO,MC,DI CK,CD,AE	Y	Manuf	Varies	Varies	N
PC Zone 707 S Grady Way Renton, WA 98055	24 hrs	800-258-2088 F206-430-3500	M-F 6-6 PST 800-248-9948	Y	N	N	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Varies/manuf	30	15%	N
Princeton 2801 S Yale St, Ste 110 Santa Ana, CA 92704	M-F 5am-5:30pm PST	800-747-6249 714-751-8405 F714-751-5736	Same 800-747-6249	Y	Y	Y	N	PO,CK,CD	Y	Limited/3 yr	Varies	Varies	N
Professional Technologies 21038 Commerce Pointe Dr Walnut, CA 91789	M-F 7-7 Sat 9-6 PST	800-949-5018 909-468-1368 F909-468-1372	M-F 9-5 PST 800-787-8987	Y	N	N	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	N	1 yr	30	N	N
Progen Technology 15501 Red Hill Ave Tustin, CA 92680	M-F 7-7 PST	800-848-8777 F714-566-9267	Same 800-848-8767	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	3 yr	30	N	N
Prostar Computer 1128 Coiner Ct City of Industry, CA 91748	M-F 7:30-6 Sat 9-3 PST	800-576-1134 626-854-3428 F626-854-3438	M-F 8:30-5:30 PST 800-576-1134	N	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MC,CK CD,AE	N	1 yr	30	N	N
Qualstar Corp 9621 Irondale Ave Chatsworth, CA 91311	M-F 8-5 PST	818-882-5822 F818-882-4081	Same 818-882-5822	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MC,CK CD,AE	Y	1 yr	30	15%	Y
Quantex Microsystems 400B Pierce St Somerset, NJ 08873	M-F 9-12 Sat 9-6 EST	800-836-0566 800-836-0566 F732-563-0407	M-Th 9-12 Sat & Sun 9-6 EST 800-864-8650	Y	N	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Manuf/1 yr	30	N	N
Royal Computer 111 N Hudson Ave City of Industry, CA 91744	M-F 8-6 Sat 9-4 PST	800-486-0008 626-855-5077 F626-330-2717	M-F 9-6 Sat 9-4 PST 800-486-2708	Y	Y	N	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Varies/1 yr	30	N	N
Sager 18005 Cortney Ct City of Industry, CA 91748	M-F 7-6 Sat 9-3 PST	800-669-1624 626-964-8682 F626-964-2381	M-F 8:30-5:30 PST 800-741-2219	Y	Y	N	Y	VI,PO,MC,DI CK,CD,AE	Y	Manuf/1 yr	30	N	N
Sony ITA 3200 Zanker Rd San Jose, CA 95134	NA	888-870-7669	24hrs 800-476-6972	N	N	Y	N	VI,MC,DI,AE	Y	Varies	30	NA	N
Team Force 14102 E Firestone Blvd Sante Fe Springs, CA 90670	M-F 8:30-5 Sat 9-2 PST	800-200-6118 F310-404-8525	M-F 8:30-5 PST 310-404-9725	Y	N	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,AE	Y	1 yr	30	15%	N

SOURCE DIRECTORY

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Technology Distribution Network 1000 Young St, Ste 270 Tonawanda, NY 14150	M-F 9-7 Sat 10-5 EST	800-420-3636 716-743-0195 F716-743-0198	Same 800-420-3636	Y	Y	N	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Varies	30	N	N
Tempest Micro 375 N Citrus Ave, #611 Asvza, CA 91702	M-F 8-6:30 Sat 9-4 PST	800-818-5163 818-858-5163 F818-858-5166	Same 800-848-5167	Y	Y	N	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD	Y	2 yr	30	15%	N
TigerDirect 8700 W Flagler St Miami, FL 33174	M 8am-12am Tu-Sat 24 hrs Sun 12am-11pm EST	800-888-4437 305-229-1119 F305-228-3395	M-Sat 8am-12am EST 905-264-7400	Y	N	N	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,DC,CK,AE	Y	Varies by Manuf	Varies	N	N
Treasure Chest Peripherals 5005 Bloomfield St Jefferson, LA 70121	M-F 7-11 Sat 9-8 Sun 11-5 CST	800-677-9781 504-733-2527 F504-733-3890	Same 800-723-6380	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,DC,CK,AE	Y	Manuf	20	N	N
Tri-State Computer 650 Sixth Ave New York, NY 10011	M-Th 9-6 F 9-2 Sun 10-5 EST	800-433-5199 212-633-2530 F212-633-2218	M-Th 10-5 F 10-1 EST 212-633-6807	Y	Y	Y	Y	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Manuf	33	N	N
TrueData Products 775 Quaker Hwy, P.O. Box 347 Uxbridge, MA 01569	M-F 9-6 Sat 10-2 EST	800-635-0300 508-278-6555 F508-278-6748	M-F 10-4 EST 508-278-6555	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	Varies	3	Varies	N
Unicore Software 1538 Turnpike St N Andover, MA 01845	M-F 9-5:30 EST	800-800-2467 F978-683-1630	M-F 9:30-5 EST 978-686-2204	Y	Y	N	N	VI,MO,MC,DI CK,CD,AE	Y	1 yr	15	20%	N
United Micro 5835 Harper Rd Solon, OH 94139	M-Sat 9-7 EST	800-943-7255 F440-498-7214	M-Sat 9-7 EST 800-943-7255	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,DC,CK,CD AE	Y	Varies 3-5 yr	30	N	N
ViewSonic 20480 Business Pkwy Walnut, CA 91789	M-F 7-6 PST	800-888-8583 909-869-7976 F909-869-7958	Same 800-888-8583	N	N	N	N	NA	N	Varies	N	N	N
Wetex International (USA) Corp 624 S Hambledon Ave City of Industry, CA 91744	M-F 8:30-5 PST	800-759-3839 626-854-6600 F626-854-6611	Same 626-854-6603	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CD	Y	1 yr	30	15%	N
WinBook Computer Corp 1160 Steelwood Rd Columbus, OH 43212	M-F 8am-9pm Sat 9-4 EST	800-468-2162 800-468-7502 F800-448-0308	Same	N	N	N	N	VI,MC,DI,CK	Y	1 yr	30	N	N
Worthington Data Solutions 3004 Mission St, Ste 220 Santa Cruz, CA 95060	M-F 6:30-5 PST	800-345-4220 F408-458-9964	Same	Y	Y	N	N	VI,PO,MC,CK CD,AE	Y	2 yr	30	Varies	N
Yorkshire Computers 11515 W Carman Ave Milwaukee, WI 53225	M-F 8-8 Sat-Sun 9-4 CST	800-375-1667 414-358-5309 F414-358-5310	M-F 8-5 CST 414-358-5306	Y	Y	Y	N	VI,PO,MO,MC DI,CK,CD,AE	Y	1 yr parts/life labor	30	15%	N
Zenon Computer Systems 18343 Gale Ave City of Industry, CA 91748	M-F 7-7 Sat 9-4 PST	800-899-6119 626-935-1860 F626-935-1826	M-F 8-6 PST 800-229-7898	Y	N	N	N	VI,PO,MC,DI CD,AE	Y	2 yr	30	N	N

Manufacturers

Canon Computer Systems 2995 Redhill Ave Costa Mesa, CA 92626	M-F 8-5 EST	800-848-4123 F800-526-4345	M-F 8-11 Sat 11-6 EST 800-423-2366										
Iomega Corp 1821 W Iomega Way Roy, UT 84067	*	800-697-8833 801-778-1000 F801-778-3748	* 801-629-7629										
Mitsubishi Electronics America 5665 Plaza Dr Cypress, CA 90630	M-F 7-4:30 PST	800-843-2515 F714-236-6172	M-F 5-5, Sat 9-5, Sun 9-4 PST 800-344-6352										
Xircom 2300 Corporate Center Dr Thousand Oaks, CA 91320	M-F 8-5 PST	800-438-4526 877-732-5767 F805-376-9311	M-F 6-5 PST 805-376-9200										

SOURCE DIRECTORY KEY

PAYMENT OPTIONS

AE	American Express	**MC**	MasterCard
CD	C.O.D.	**MO**	Money Order
CK	Cashier's/Personal Check	**PO**	Purchase Order
DC	Diner's Club	**VI**	Visa

GENERAL

F	Fax Number
N	No/None
NA	Not Available
Y	Yes
*	Information Not Provided

WARRANTY

CD	Manufacturer's Warranty
Life	Lifetime
Mo	Month
Unltd	Unlimited
Yr	Year

MOBILE SHOPPER'S GUIDE

VALUE NOTEBOOKS

Company	Product	List Price	Processor	Std. RAM (MB)/Max. RAM (MB)/L2 Cache	Hard Drive (GB)	Display (Diagonal In.)	Display Features	Ports/Jacks	PC Card Slots	Additional Features	Weight (Pounds)	Dimensions (HWD, In.)	Support/Warranty
Acer America	Extensa 5010X	$1,299	MMX Pentium/266	32/128/512K	3.3	12.1 DU	2MB/800x600	P, P2, S, TI, TO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 [C, Z]	20x IC, IF, IM, TP, MC, two SP, NH	7.3	1.8x12.1x10.1	TF/1/1/Y
Acer America	Extensa 502DX	$1,399	MMX Pentium/266	32/128/512K	4	12.1 DU	2MB/800x600	M, P, P2, S, TI, TO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 [C, Z]	20x IC, IF, IM, TP, MC, two SP, NH	7.3	1.8x12.1x10.1	TF/1/1/Y
Acer America	Extensa 503T	$1,599	MMX Pentium/300	32/128/512K	4	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600	M, P, P2, S, TI, TO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 [C, Z]	20x IC, IF, IM, TP, MC, two SP, NH	7.3	1.8x12.1x10.1	TF/1/1/Y
Acer America	Extensa 711TE	$2,199	Pentium II/266	64/256/512K	4	13.3 AM	2MB/1,024x768	F, H, P, P2, S, SO, TI, TO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x IC, IF, IM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (DS, DV, HD, LS)	7.6	1.8x12.1x9.9	TF/1/1/Y
Alcam	Designer 400	$1,299	K6-2/333	32/128/512K	3.2	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600	F, H, M, NO, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	3D, 24x IC, IF, W, PM, TP, MC, two SP, NH	7.2	1.8x12.3x9.3	T/1/1/Y
Alcam	Designer 400	$1,349	K6-2/333	64/128/512K	4.3	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600	F, H, M, NO, P, P2, S, TIO, TO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	3D, 24x IC, IF, W, PM, TP, MC, two SP, NH	7.2	1.8x12.3x9.3	T/1/1/Y
Alcam	Executive 700 Slimline	$2,199	Pentium II/266	32/160/512K	3.2	12.1 AM	4MB/800x600	F, G, H, NO, P, P2, S, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 24x EC, EF, W, PM, TP, MC, SP, LIO (PR)	4.2	1.1x11.7x8.9	T/1/1/Y
All Computer Technology	NT-7123VX	$1,768	Pentium II/233	32/128/512K	4	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600	F, M, P, P2, S, two U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x SC, IF, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	6.4	1.5x11.7x9.6	TF/1/1/Y
All Computer Technology	NT-7133VX	$1,888	Pentium II/233	32/128/512K	4	13.3 AM	2MB/800x600	F, M, P, P2, S, TO, two U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x SC, IF, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	6.4	1.5x11.7x9.6	TF/1/1/Y
All Computer Technology	NT-7126VX	$1,968	Pentium II/266	32/128/512K	4	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600	F, M, P, P2, S, TO, two U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x SC, IF, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	6.4	1.5x11.7x9.6	TF/1/1/Y
All Computer Technology	NT-7136VX	$2,088	Pentium II/266	32/128/512K	4	13.3 AM	2MB/800x600	F, M, P, P2, S, TO, two U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x SC, IF, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	6.4	1.5x11.7x9.6	TF/1/1/Y
Ares	2010 Series K6-2 300	$1,299	K6-2/300	32/128/512K	3	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600	F, G, H, M, P, P2, S, TIO, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	20x IC, IF, W, TP, MC, two SP, NH	7.2	2.2x11.8x9.3	TF/1/LF/Y
Ares	3900 Series K6-2 300	$1,629	K6-2/300	32/128/512K	3	13.3 AM	4MB/1,024x768	F, G, H, M, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x SC, SF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7.2	1.8x12.7x10.1	TF/1/LF/Y
Ares	4900 Series PII 233	$1,755	Pentium II/233	32/128/512K	3	14.1 AM	4MB/1,024x768	F, G, H, M, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x SC, SF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7.2	1.8x12.7x10.1	TF/1/LF/Y
Ares	4900 Series K6-2 333	$1,799	K6-2/333	32/128/512K	4	14.1 AM	4MB/1,024x768	F, G, H, M, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x SC, SF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7.2	1.8x12.7x10.1	TF/1/LF/Y
Ares	3900 Series PII 266	$1,845	Pentium II/266	32/128/512K	4	13.3 AM	4MB/1,024x768	F, G, H, M, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x SC, SF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7.2	1.8x12.7x10.1	TF/1/LF/Y
Ares	3900 Series K6-2 333	$1,859	K6-2/333	64/128/512K	6	13.3 AM	4MB/1,024x768	F, G, H, M, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x SC, SF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7.2	1.8x12.7x10.1	TF/1/LF/Y
Ares	4900 Series PII 300	$2,195	Pentium II/300	32/128/512K	4	14.1 AM	4MB/1,024x768	F, G, H, M, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x SC, SF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7.2	1.8x12.7x10.1	TF/1/LF/Y
Arm Computer	TS1200-TX	$1,299	MMX Pentium/233	32/128/512K	3.1	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600	H, M, P, P2, S, TO, MP	PC:1	3D, 24x IC, IF, W, PM, TP, MC, two SP, NH	7.2	2.1x12.7x9.2	TF/1/1/Y
Arm Computer	TS735-366T2	$1,499	K6-2/366	32/256/512K	4.1	12.1 AM	2MB/1,024x768	F, M, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	3D, 24x IC, IF, W, PM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (E, PR,VC)	7.3	2x12 .1x9 .5	TF/1/1/Y
Arm Computer	TS735-366T3	$1,699	K6-2/366	64/256/512K	4.1	13.3 AM	2MB/1,024x768	F, M, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	3D, 24x IC, IF, W, PM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (E, PR,VC)	7.3	2x12.1x9.5	TF/1/1/Y
Arm Computer	TS759-333K	$1,849	K6-2/333	32/256/512K	4.1	14.2 AM	4MB/1,024x768	F, G, H, M, NI, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	3D, 24x SC, IF, W, PM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (E, DV, FW, PR, ZP)	8.3	1.9x12.6x9.9	TF/1/1/Y
Arm Computer	TS759-300C	$2,049	Celeron/300	64/256/512K	4.1	14.2 AM	4MB/1,024x768	F, G, H, M, NI, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	3D, 24x SC, IF, W, PM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (E, DV, FW, PR, ZP)	8.3	1.9x12.6x9.9	TF/1/1/Y
Arm Computer	TS30i2-4BS	$2,199	Celeron/300	64/384/512K	4.1	14.2 AM	8MB/1,024x768	F, H, M, P, P2, S, SO, TO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 24x SC, SF, W, IM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	8.3	2.4x12.9x10.4	TF/1/1/Y
Arm Computer	TS759-300P	$2,199	Pentium II/300	64/256/512K	4.1	14.2 AM	4MB/1,024x768	F, G, H, M, NI, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	3D, 24x SC, IF, W, PM,TP, MC, two SP, LIO (E, DV, FW, PR, ZP)	8.3	1.9x12.6x9.9	TF/1/1/Y
Compaq Computer Corp.	Presario 1260	$1,599	K6-2/333	64/160/512K	4	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600	H, M, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP	PC:3	3D, 24x IC, IF, IM, TP, MC, LIO	7.5	2x12.2x10.1	TF/1/1/Y
CrossLine	Crossbook X	$1,198	K6-2/300	32/128/512K	4	12.1 AM	4MB/1,280x1,024	F, G, H, M, NIO, P, P2, S, SIO, TIO, two U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 24x SC, SF, W, IM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7.5	1.8x12.4x9.6	TF/3/3/Y
CrossLine	Crossbook X	$1,458	K6-2/333	32/128/512K	6	12.1 AM	4MB/1,280x1,024	F, G, H, M, NIO, P, P2, S, SIO, TIO, two U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 24x SC, SF, W, IM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7.5	1.8x12.4x9.6	TF/3/3/Y
CrossLine	Crossbook X	$1,538	K6-2/333	32/128/512K	4	13.3 AM	4MB/1,280x1,024	F, G, H, M, NIO, P, P2, S, SIO, TIO, two U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 24x SC, SF, W, IM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7.5	1.9x12.4x9.6	TF/3/3/Y
CrossLine	Crossbook X	$1,648	K6-2/333	32/128/512K	6	13.3 AM	4MB/1,280x1,024	F, G, H, M, NIO, P, P2, S, SIO, TIO, two U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 24x SC, SF, W, IM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7.5	1.8x12.4x9.6	TF/3/3/Y
CrossLine	Crossbook X	$1,688	K6-2/350	32/128/512K	6	13.3 AM	4MB/1,280x1,024	F, G, H, M, NIO, P, P2, S, SIO, TIO, two U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 24x SC, SF, W, IM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7.5	1.8x12.4x9.6	TF/3/3/Y
CrossLine	Crossbook CX	$1,998	Pentium II/266	32/256/512K	4	14.1 AM	4MB/1,280x1,024	F, G, H, M, NIO, P, P2, S, SIO, TIO, two U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 24x SC, SF, W, IM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (DV, HD, LS)	7.9	2x12.8x10.1	TF/3/3/Y
CTX International	EZNote M303	$2,126	MMX Pentium/300	32/96/512K	3.2	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600	I, M, NIO, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP	PC:2, [C, Z]	3D, 24x EC, EF, W, IM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	3.6	1.0x10.6x8.7	TF/1/1/Y
CTX International	EZBook VC2I33C	$2,199	Celeron/333	32/128/512K	3.2	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600	I, H, M, P, P2, S, SO, TO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 24x SC, EF, PM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	6	1.5x11.7x9.4	TF/1/1/Y
DFI	6520	$1,199	K6-2/300	32/128/512K	4	12.1 AM	4MB/1,024x768	F, H, M, NO, P, P2, S, TI, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	3D, 24x IC, IF, W, IM, TP, MC, two SP, NH (PR)	7.5	1.8x12.2x9.4	TF/1/1/Y
Fujitsu America	LifeBook C340	$1,299	Pentium II/233	32/96/512K	3.2	12.1 DU	2MB/800x600	H, M, P, P2, S, TI, U, MP	PC:1	3D, 20x IC, IF, IM, PB, MC, two SP, LIO (ZP)	7.9	2x12.3x10.2	TF/1/1/Y
Fujitsu America	LifeBook C350	$1,599	Pentium II/266	32/96/512K	4	13 DU	2MB/1,024x768	H, M, P, P2, S, TI, U, MP	PC:1	3D, 20x IC, IF, PB, MC, two SP, LIO (ZP)	8.1	2x12.3x10.2	TF/1/1/Y
Fujitsu America	LifeBook E340	$1,999	Pentium II/266	32/160/512K	4	13.3 AM	2MB/1,024x768	I, H, M, P, P2, S, TI, U, MP	PC:1 [Z]	3D, 24x SC, SF, IM, PB, MC, two SP, LIO, WNT (LS, ZP)	6.9	1.9x12.3x9.8	TF/3/3/Y
FutureCast Technology	CB163CXA	$1,395	K6-2/333	32/96/512K	6.4	13.3 AM	2MB/1,024x768	F, M, P, P2, S, TO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	3D, 24x IC, IF, W, IM, TB, MC, two SP, NH	7.5	1.8x11.7x9.4	TF/1/1/Y
Gateway	Solo 2500SE	$1,749	Celeron/300	32/288/128K	4	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600	F, M, NIO, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	20x IC, IF, PM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7	1.9x11.5x9.3	TF/1/1/Y

Notes: Items in parentheses under **"Additional Features"** are extra-cost options. **"Support/Warranty"** indicates toll or toll-free tech support/parts warranty in years/labor warranty in years/whether an extended warranty is available. Contact vendors about port-replicator and docking-station options. Note that travel weights may vary depending on components installed. All notebooks have FM-synthesis sound unless wavetable is specified; all notebooks ship with Windows 98 unless otherwise specified. All modems are capable of 56Kbps data transfer rates. **3D** = 3-D graphics acceleration; **AG** = AGP support; **AM** = active-matrix color (TFT); **C** = CardBus support; **D** = docking station; **DU** = dual-scan passive-matrix color (DSTN); **DV** = DVD-ROM drive (form factor not specified); **E** = Ethernet capability; **EC** = external CD-ROM drive; **EF** = external floppy drive; **F** = Fast IR port; **FD** = floppy drive (form factor not specified); **G** = game/MIDI port; **H** = headphone jack; **HD** = second hard drive; **I** = IR port; **IC** = internal fixed CD-ROM drive; **ID** = internal fixed DVD-ROM drive; **IF** = internal fixed floppy drive; **IM** = internal modem; **LF** = lifetime coverage; **LIO** = lithium-ion battery; **LS** = LS-120 drive (form factor not specified); **M** = microphone jack; **MC** = built-in microphone; **MM** = modem (form factor not specified); **MP** = monitor port; **NA** = not applicable; **NH** = nickel-metal-hydride battery; **NI** = NTSC-in port; **NIO** = NTSC-in and -out ports; **NO** = NTSC-out port; **OD** = other dual-scan technology; **P** = parallel port; **P2** = PS/2 port; **PB** = pointing button; **PC:1** = one Type III or two Type II PC Card slots; **PC:2** = two Type II PC Card slots; **PC:3** = one Type II PC Card slot; **PM** = PC Card modem; **PP** = port-replicator port; **PR** = port replicator; **PS** = pointing stick; **S** = serial port; **SC** = internal modular/swappable CD-ROM drive; **SD** = internal modular/swappable DVD-ROM drive; **SF** = internal modular/swappable floppy drive; **SIO** = S-Video-in and -out ports; **SO** = S-Video-out port; **SP** = built-in speakers; **T** = toll phone number; **TB** = trackball; **TF** = toll-free phone number; **TI** = stereo line-in; **TIO** = stereo line-in and -out ports; **TO** = stereo line-out; **TP** = touch pad; **U** = USB port; **VC** = videoconferencing kit; **W** = wavetable synthesis; **WNT** = Windows NT available; **Z** = Zoomed Video support; **ZP** = Zip drive (form factor not specified)

For company phone numbers, see p. 406

Company	Product	List Price	Processor	Std. RAM (MB)/Max. RAM (MB)	L2 Cache	Hard Drive (GB)	Display (Diagonal In.)	Display Features	Ports/Jacks	PC Card Slots	Additional Features	Weight (Pounds)	Dimensions (HWD, in.)	Support/Warranty
Gateway	Solo 2500LS	$2,149	Pentium II PE/300	64/288/256K	4	13.3 AM	2MB/1,024x768		F, M, NIO, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U	PC:1 [C, Z]	20x IC, IF, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7	1.9x11.5x9.3	T/1/1/Y
Gateway	Solo 5150SE	$2,199	Pentium II PE/300	32/288/256K	10	14.2 AM	2.5MB/1,024x768		F, M, NO, P, P2, S, SO, TO, U	PC:1 [C, Z]	20x SC, SF, W, TP, two SP, LIO	6	1.6x12.4x1.6	TF/1/1/Y
Great Lakes Technology	WinNote 55040-040-15	$1,882	K6-2/333	32/256/512K	3	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600		F, M, NIO, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	3D, 24x IC, IF, PM, TP, MC, two SP, NH	7.2	1.8x12.2x9.4	T/4/4/N
Great Lakes Technology	WinNote 62000-62-01	$2,177	K6-2/333	64/96/512K	4	13.3 AM	4MB/1,024x768		G, M, NO, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 20x IC, IF, PM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7.1	2x12.4x9.7	TF/4/4/N
Hewlett-Packard Co.	OmniBook XE	$2,099	Pentium II PE/300	64/256/256K	4	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600		F, H, M, P2, TO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x IC, IF, IM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	6.4	1.7x12.3x9.8	T/1/1/Y
Hitachi America	VisionBook Traveler	$1,799	Pentium II/266	32/160/512K	3.2	10.4 AM	2MB/800x600		F, H, P, P2, S, TI, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 24x EC, EF, W, IM, TP, MC, SP, LIO, WNT	2.9	1.2x10.1x8.4	TF/3/3/Y
HyperData	MediaGo 780T Pro	$1,295	K6-2/300	32/96/512K	4	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600		F, M, P, P2, S, TO, U	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x IC, IF, W, PM, TP, MC, two SP, NH	7	1.8x11.7x9.4	T/1/1/Y
HyperData	MediaGo 780T Pro	$1,395	K6-2/333	64/96/512K	4	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600		F, M, P, P2, S, TO, U	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x IC, IF, W, PM, TP, MC, two SP, NH	7	1.8x11.7x9.4	T/1/1/Y
HyperData	MediaGo 780L Pro	$1,545	K6-2/333	64/96/512K	4	13.3 AM	2MB/1,024x768		F, M, P, P2, S, TO, U	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x IC, IF, W, PM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7	1.8x11.7x9.4	T/1/1/Y
HyperData	MediaGo 930 Pro	$1,695	K6-2/300	64/256/512K	4	14.1 AM	4MB/1,024x768		F, M, NO, P2, S, TO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x IC, IF, W, PM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (DV, PR)	7.5	1.9x12.9x10.5	T/1/1/Y
HyperData	MediaGo 780M Pro	$1,845	Pentium II PE/300	64/96/256K	4	13.3 AM	2MB/1,024x768		F, M, P, P2, S, TO, U	PC:1, [2, 1]	24x IC, IF, W, PM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7	1.8x11.7x9.4	T/1/1/Y
HyperData	MediaGo 950AGP	$2,095	Pentium II PE/300	64/256/256K	4	14.1 AM	8MB/1,024x768		F, G, H, M, NI, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 24x SC, IF, W, PM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (D, HD, FW, ZP)	8.5	1.9x12.6x9.8	T/1/1/Y
IBM	ThinkPad i Series 1411	$1,599	MMX Pentium/300	32/256/512K	4.3	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600		H, M, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C]	3D, 24x IC, IF, IM, PS, MC, NH	7.5	1.8x13.1x10.9	TF/1/1/Y
IBM	ThinkPad i Series 1451	$1,999	MMX Pentium/300	32/256/512K	4.3	13.3 AM	2MB/1,024x768		H, M, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C]	3D, 24x IC, IF, IM, PS, MC, NH	7.7	1.8x13.1x10.9	TF/1/1/Y
LEK Technologies	Future Note 3000	$1,599	K6-2/300	32/128/512K	3.2	13.3 AM	4MB/1,024x768		I, H, M, NIO, P, P2, S, SIO, TIO, two U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 24x IC, IF, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (E, DV, HD, LS)	7	1.8x12.5x10.4	TF/1/1/Y
LEK Technologies	Future Note 4000	$1,995	K6-2/333	64/128/512K	4	14.1 AM	4MB/1,024x768		I, M, NIO, P, P2, S, SIO, TIO, two U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 24x SC, IF, IM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (E, DV, HD, LS)	7	1.8x12.5x10.4	TF/1/1/Y
LEK Technologies	Future Note II 3000	$2,085	Pentium II/300	32/128/512K	4	13.1 AM	4MB/1,024x768		I, M, NIO, P, P2, S, SIO, TIO, two U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 24x SC, IF, IM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (E, DV, HD, LS)	7.5	1.8x12.5x10.5	TF/1/1/Y
Mag Portable Tech.	Verity 4223VLT	$1,399	MMX Pentium/233	32/96/512K	3	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600		F, H, M, P, P2, S, TO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x EC, IF, W, TP, two SP, NH	7.3	1.8x11.6x9.4	TF/1/1/Y
Mag Portable Tech.	Verity 4230VLT	$1,449	K6/300	32/96/512K	3	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600		F, H, M, P, P2, S, TO, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x EC, IF, W, TP, two SP, NH	7.3	1.8x11.6x9.4	TF/1/1/Y
Mag Portable Tech.	Verity 4326VLT	$1,599	MMX Pentium/266	64/96/512K	4	13.3 AM	2MB/800x600		F, H, M, P, P2, S, TO, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x EC, IF, W, TP, two SP, NH	4	1.8x11.6x9.4	TF/1/1/Y
Mag Portable Tech.	Verity 4330VLT	$1,699	K6-2/300	64/96/512K	6	13.3 AM	2MB/800x600		F, H, M, P, P2, S, TO, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x EC, IF, W, TP, two SP, NH	7.4	1.8x11.6x9.4	TF/1/1/Y
Mag Portable Tech.	Verity 775CDT	$1,799	MMX Pentium/266	64/144/512K	3.2	13.3 AM	2MB/1,024x768		G, H, P, P2, S, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	3D, 24x SC, SF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	6.7	1.9x11.8x9.2	TF/1/1/Y
Mag Portable Tech.	Verity 850CDT	$2,099	Pentium II/266	64/144/512K	4	13.3 AM	2MB/1,024x768		G, H, P, P2, S, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	3D, 24x SC, SF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7.7	2.4x11.7x9.3	TF/1/1/Y
Micro Express	NP4333	$1,999	K6-2/333	64/128/512K	4	14.1 AM	4MB/1,024x768		F, G, H, M, NIO, P, P2, S, TIO, two U, MP	PC:1 [Z]	3D, 24x SC, SF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	6.7	1.8x11.8x9.8	TF/4/4/N
NEC Technologies	NEC Versa Note	$2,199	Pentium II PE/300	32/128/256K	4	13.3 AM	2MB/1,024x768		I, H, M, P, S, TI, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	24x IC, IF, W, IM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	6.1	1.5x11.9x9.7	TF/1/1/Y
NetLux	Empire 5503-266	$1,499	MMX Pentium/266	32/256/512K	4.1	13.3 AM	4MB/1,024x768		F, H, M, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 24x IC, IF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7	1.8x12.4x9.8	TF/1.5/1.5/Y
NetLux	Empire 5503-300	$1,499	K6-2/300	32/256/512K	4.1	13.3 AM	4MB/1,024x768		F, H, M, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 24x IC, IF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7	1.8x12.4x9.8	TF/1.5/1.5/Y
NetLux	Empire 5513-300	$1,599	K6-2/300	64/256/512K	4.1	13.3 AM	4MB/1,024x768		F, H, M, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 2x ID, IF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7	1.8x12.4x9.8	TF/1.5/1.5/Y
NetLux	Empire 5513-333	$1,699	K6-2/333	64/256/512K	6.4	13.3 AM	4MB/1,024x768		F, H, M, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 2x ID, IF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7	1.8x12.4x9.8	TF/1.5/1.5/Y
NetLux	Empire 5513-266	$1,749	MMX Pentium/266	64/256/512K	6.4	13.3 AM	4MB/1,024x768		F, H, M, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 2x ID, IF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7	1.8x12.4x9.8	TF/1.5/1.5/Y
NetLux	Empire 5603-300	$1,799	Celeron/300	32/256/128K	4.1	13.3 AM	8MB/1,024x768		F, H, M, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 24x IC, IF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7	1.8x12.4x9.8	TF/1.5/1.5/Y
NetLux	Empire 5514-333	$1,899	K6-2/333	64/256/512K	6.4	14.1 AM	4MB/1,024x768		F, G, H, M, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 2x ID, IF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7	1.8x12.4x9.8	TF/1.5/1.5/Y
ProStar Computer	1200A-CDROM	$1,245	K6-2/300	32/256/512K	4	12.1 AM	4MB/800x600		F, I, H, M, P, P2, S, TI, TO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	3D, 24x IC, IF, W, TP, MC, two SP, NH (DV)	6.5	1.8x11.8x9.8	TF/1/1/Y
ProStar Computer	1206H	$1,495	K6-2/350	32/256/512K	4	13.3 AM	4MB/1,024x768		F, M, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	3D, 24x IC, IF, PM, TP, MC, two SP, NH (DV)	6.6	1.8x11.8x9.8	TF/1/1/Y
ProStar Computer	1206T-DVD	$1,795	K6-2/380	64/256/512K	4	14.1 AM	4MB/1,024x768		F, M, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	3D, 2x ID, IF, W, TP, MC, two SP, NH	7	1.8x11.8x9.8	TF/1/1/Y
ProStar Computer	1100H	$1,945	Pentium II/300	64/256/512K	4	13.3 AM	4MB/1,024x768		F, H, M, NIO, P, P2, S, SIO, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 24x IC, IF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (DV, E, PM)	6.6	1.8x11.8x9.8	TF/1/1/Y
Quantex MicroSystems	T-1330	$1,997	Pentium II PE/300	64/256/256K	4	14 AM	8MB/1,024x768		F, H, P, P2, S, U, MP	PC:1 [C]	AG, 24x SC, SF, W, IM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (E, D)	6.4	1.4x12.4x9.8	TF/1-3/1/Y
Quantex MicroSystems	I-1400	$1,999	Pentium II PE/266	64/384/256K	4	15 AM	8MB/1,024x768		F2, H, M, P, P2, S, U, MP PP	PC:1 [C]	AG, 24x SC, SF, W, IM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (E, D)	7.9	2x12.5x10	TF/1-3/1/Y
Sager Midern Computer	NP9726H-3C	$1,545	K6-2/350	64/256/512K	4	13.3 AM	4MB/1,024x768		F, H, M, NO, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	3D, 24x IC, IF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7.2	1.8x12.2x9.4	TF/1/1/Y
Sager Midern Computer	NP9726H-3CB	$1,695	K6-2/350	64/256/512K	4	13.3 AM	4MB/1,024x768		F, H, M, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	3D, 2x ID, IF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7.2	1 .8x12.2x9.4	TF/1/1/Y
Sager Midern Computer	NP6653H-3C	$1,995	Pentium II/300	64/256/512K	4	13.3 AM	8MB/1,024x768		F, H, M, NO, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 [C, Z]	AG, 3D, 24x IC, SF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7.6	2x13x10.2	TF/1/1/Y
Sony Electronics	PCG F150	$1,699	Pentium II PE/300	32/160/256K	4.3	13 OD	2.5MB/1,024x768		F, H, M, P2, S, U, FW, MP	PC:1	24x SC, SF, IM, TP, MC, LIO	6.8	1.7x12.8x10.5	TF/1/1/Y

Notes: Items in parentheses under **"Additional Features"** are extra-cost options. **"Support/Warranty"** indicates toll or toll-free tech support/parts warranty in years/labor warranty in years/whether an extended warranty is available. Contact vendors about port-replicator and docking-station options. Note that travel weights may vary depending on components installed. All notebooks have FM-synthesis sound unless wavetable is specified; all notebooks ship with Windows 98 unless otherwise specified. All modems are capable of 56Kbps data transfer rates. **3D** = 3-D graphics acceleration; **AG** = AGP support; **AM** = active-matrix color (TFT); **C** = CardBus support; **D** = docking station; **DU** = dual-scan passive-matrix color (DSTN); **DV** = DVD-ROM drive (form factor not specified); **E** = Ethernet capability; **EC** = external CD-ROM drive; **EF** = external floppy drive; **F** = Fast IR port; **FD** = floppy drive (form factor not specified); **G** = game/MIDI port; **H** = headphone jack; **HD** = second hard drive; **I** = IR port; **IC** = internal fixed CD-ROM drive; **ID** = internal fixed DVD-ROM drive; **IF** = internal fixed floppy drive; **IM** = internal modem; **LF** = lifetime coverage; **LIO** = lithium-ion battery; **LS** = LS-120 drive (form factor not specified); **M** = microphone jack; **MC** = built-in microphone; **MM** = modem (form factor not specified); **MP** = monitor port; **NA** = not applicable; **NH** = nickel-metal-hydride battery; **NI** = NTSC-in port; **NIO** = NTSC-in and -out ports; **NO** = NTSC-out port; **OD** = other dual-scan technology; **P** = parallel port; **P2** = PS/2 port; **PB** = pointing button; **PC:1** = one Type III or two Type II PC Card slots; **PC:2** = two Type II PC Card slots; **PC:3** = one Type II PC Card slot; **PM** = PC Card modem; **PP** = port-replicator port; **PR** = port replicator; **PS** = pointing stick; **S** = serial port; **SC** = internal modular/swappable CD-ROM drive; **SD** = internal modular/swappable DVD-ROM drive; **SF** = internal modular/swappable floppy drive; **SIO** = S-Video-in and -out ports; **SO** = S-Video-out port; **SP** = built-in speakers; **T** = toll phone number; **TB** = trackball; **TF** = toll-free phone number; **TI** = stereo line-in; **TIO** = stereo line-in and -out ports; **TO** = stereo line-out; **TP** = touch pad; **U** = USB port; **VC** = videoconferencing kit; **W** = wavetable synthesis; **WNT** = Windows NT available; **Z** = Zoomed Video support; **ZP** = Zip drive (form factor not specified)

For company phone numbers, see p. 406

MOBILE SHOPPER'S GUIDE

VALUE NOTEBOOKS

Company	Product	List Price	Processor	Std. RAM (MB)/Max. RAM (MB)/L2 Cache	Hard Drive (GB)	Display (Diagonal In.)	Display Features	Ports/Jacks	PC Card Slots	Additional Features	Weight (Pounds)	Dimensions (HWD. In.)	Support/Warranty
Sony Electronics	PCG F160	$1,999	Pentium II PE/300	64/192/256K	4.3	14.1 AM	2.5MB/1,024x768	F, H, M, P2, S, U, FW, MP	PC:1	24x SC, SF, IM, TP, MC, LIO	6.8	1.6x12.8x10.5	TF/1/1/Y
Soyo	PW 9800	$1,049	MediaGX/233	32/128/NA	3	8 DU	1MB/800x600	I, H, M, P, TIO, U, MP	PC:1	24x EC, EF, IM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	3.5	1.7x9.4x7	T/2/2/Y
Tagram Systems	Thundernote P5670	$1,749	Pentium II/266	64/128/512K	4	13.3 AM	2MB/1,024x768	F, H, M, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 (C, Z)	3D, 24x IC, IF, IM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (PR)	7	1.5x11.7x9.7	TF/1/1/Y
Tagram Systems	Thundernote P5670	$2,045	Pentium II/266	64/128/512K	4	13.3 AM	2MB/1,024x768	F, H, M, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 (C, Z)	3D, 24x IC, IF, IM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (PR)	7	1.5x11.7x9.7	TF/1/1/Y
Toshiba America	Satellite 2535CDS	$1,399	Pentium II/300	32/160/512K	4.3	13 DU	2MB/800x600	F, H, M, P, P2, S, TI, U, MP	PC:1 (C, Z)	24x IC, IF, W, PM, PS, two SP, LIO	6.7	1.7x12.2x10.2	TF/1/1/Y
Toshiba America	Satellite 4030CDT	$1,999	Celeron/300	64/192/512K	4.3	13.1 AM	2.5MB/1,024x768	F, H, M, P, P2, S, TO, U, MP	PC:1 (C)	3D, 24x IC, IF, W, IM, PS, MC, two SP, LIO	6.7	1.6x10.2x12.1	TF/1/1/Y
Transmonde Technologies	Vibrant LS 266	$1,399	Celeron/266	64/256/128K	3.2	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600	F, I, M, NO, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 (C, Z)	24x IC, IF, W, IM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	6.7	1.6x9.3x12	TF/1/1/Y
Transmonde Technologies	Vibrant LS 300	$1,699	Celeron/300	64/256/128K	4.1	13.3 AM	2MB/1,024x768	F, I, M, NO, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 (C, Z)	24x IC, IF, W, IM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	6.7	1.6x9.3x12	TF/1/1/Y
Transmonde Technologies	Vivante XL 2300PE	$1,999	Pentium II PE/300	64/256/256K	4.1	13.3 AM	4MB/1,024x768	F, I, M, NO, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 (C, Z)	24x SC, IF, W, IM,TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7.1	1.9x9.8x12.6	TF/1/1/Y
Twinhead Corp.	PowerSlim-266TZ	$1,495	MMX Pentium/266	32/160/512K	4	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600	F, G, M, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP	PC:2 (C, Z)	3D, 24x EC, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (FD, MM)	3.5	1x10.6x8.6	TF/1/1/Y
Twinhead Corp.	Slimnote VX2-233TZ	$1,579	Pentium II/233	32/256/512K	4	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600	F, H, M, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 (C, Z)	3D, 24x IC, IF, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (DV, LS, MM, PR)	6.4	1.5x11.7x9.6	TF/1/1/Y
Twinhead Corp.	Slimnote VX2-233 TG	$1,692	Pentium II/233	32/256/512K	4	13.3 AM	2MB/1,024x768	F, H, M, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 (C, Z)	3D, 24x IC, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (DV, FD, MM, PR)	6.4	1.5x11.7x9.6	TF/1/1/Y
Twinhead Corp.	Slimnote VX2-266TG	$1,898	Pentium II/266	32/256/512K	4	13.3 AM	2MB/1,024x768	F, H, M, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 (C, Z)	3D, 24x IC, IF, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	6.4	1.5x11.7x9.6	TF/1/1/Y
Twinhead Corp.	Slimnote VX2-300TZ	$2,068	Pentium II/300	32/256/512K	4	12.1 AM	2MB/800x600	F, H, M, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 (C, Z)	3D, 24x IC, IF, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (FD, MM, PR)	6.4	1.5x11.7x9.6	TF/1/1/Y
Twinhead Corp.	Slimnote GX-266TG	$2,124	Pentium II/266	64/256/512K	4	13.3 AM	4MB/1,024x768	F, H, M, NO, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 (C, Z)	AG, 3D, 24x SC, IF, W, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (DV, LS, MM, PR)	7	1.6x12.2x9.8	TF/1/1/Y
Twinhead Corp.	Slimnote VX2-300TG	$2,180	Pentium II/300	32/256/512K	4	13.3 AM	2MB/1,024x768	F, H, M, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 (C, Z)	3D, 24x IC, IF, TP, MC, two SP, LIO (DV, MM, PR)	6.4	1.5x11.7x9.6	TF/1/1/Y
Wedge Technology	Slimbook-1300-12.1	$1,395	K6-2/333	32/128/512K	4	12.1 AM	4MB/800x600	F, M, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 (C, Z)	3D, 24x IC, IF, W, TP, MC, two SP, NH	7.2	1.8x11.8x9.8	TF/1/1/Y
Wedge Technology	Slimbook-1300-13.3	$1,495	K6-2/333	32/128/512K	4	13.3 AM	4MB/1,024x768	F, M, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 (C, Z)	3D, 24x IC, IF, W, TP, MC, two SP, NH	7.2	1.8x11.8x9.8	TF/1/1/Y
Wedge Technology	Slimbook-1300-14.1	$1,635	K6-2/333	32/128/512K	4	14.1 AM	4MB/1,024x768	F, M, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 (C, Z)	3D, 24x IC, IF, W, TP, MC, two SP, NH	7.2	1.8x11.8x9.8	TF/1/1/Y
Wedge Technology	MiniNote 980	$1,995	MMX Pentium/266	32/64/512K	4	10.4 AM	2MB/1,024x768	F, H, M, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP	PC:3 (C, Z)	3D, 24x EC, E, W, IM, PS, MC, two SP, NH	3	1.4x11x6.8	TF/1/1/Y
Wedge Technology	Slimbook 1300M	$2,195	Pentium II/266	64/128/512K	4	14.1 AM	4MB/1,024x768	F, M, NI, P, P2, S, SO, TIO, U, MP	PC:1 (C, Z)	3D, 24x IC, IF, W, PM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	7.2	1.8x11.8x9.8	TF/1/1/Y
WinBook Computer Corp.	WinBook Xli 300	$1,999	Pentium II/300	32/128/512K	4	13.3 AM	4MB/1,024x768	F, H, M, NO, P, P2, S, TIO, U, MP, PP	PC:1 (C, Z)	3D, 20x IC, SF, W, TP, PB, MC, two SP, LIO	7.8	2x12.2x9.6	TF/1/1/Y
Zenon Computer Systems	Valuenote 4000	$1,759	K6-2/333	64/256/512K	4	13.3 AM	2MB/800x600	F, I, M, P, P2, S, SO, TO, U, MP	PC:1 (C, Z)	3D, 24x SC, IF, W, PM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	8	1.9x12.6x9.9	TF/1/1/Y
Zenon Computer Systems	Valuenote 4000	$1,929	K6-2/333	128/256/512K	6	13.3 AM	2MB/800x600	F, M, P, P2, S, SO, TO, U, MP	PC:1 (C, Z)	3D, 24x SC, IF, W, PM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	8	1.9x12.6x9.9	TF/1/1/Y
Zenon Computer Systems	Valuenote 5000	$1,929	K6-2/333	64/256/512K	4	14.2 AM	4MB/1,024x768	F, I, G, H, M, NI, P, P2, S, SO, TO, U, FW, MP	PC:1 (C, Z)	AG, 3D, 24x SC, IF, W, PM, TP, MC, two SP, LIO	8	1.9x12.6x9.9	TF/1/1/Y

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COMPANY LIST

Acer America	800-733-2237	✔
Alcam	510-440-6363	
All Computer Technology	800-775-1953	✔
Ares	800-515-5828	✔
Arm Computer	800-765-1767	✔
Compaq Computer Corp.	800-345-1518	✔
CrossLine	888-909-2767	✔
CTX International	800-888-9052	✔
DFI	800-669-0980	
Fujitsu America	888-466-8434	✔
FutureCast Technology	888-814-8388	
Gateway	800-315-2536	✔
Great Lakes Technology	800-229-3095	
Hewlett-Packard Co.	800-752-0900	✔
Hitachi America	800-448-2244	✔
HyperData	800-786-3343	✔
IBM	800-772-2227	✔
LEK Technologies	800-284-8459	
Mag Portable Technologies	800-533-7515	✔
Micro Express	800-989-9900	
NEC Technologies	888-863-2669	✔
NetLux	800-789-1780	✔
ProStar Computer	800-576-1134	✔
Quantex MicroSystems	800-836-0566	✔
Sager Midern Computer	800-669-1624	✔
Sony Electronics	888-315-7669	✔
Soyo	510-226-7696	
Tagram Systems	800-824-7267	
Toshiba America	800-867-4422	✔
Transmonde Technologies	888-988-2883	
Twinhead Corp.	800-995-8946	
Wedge Technology	800-872-9334	
WinBook Computer Corp.	800-651-4519	✔
Zenon Computer Systems	800-899-6119	

✔ **Checked manufacturers are listed in the *Computer Shopper* Product Index.**

HOW WE TEST

Computer Shopper's primary goal is to help readers make intelligent buying decisions. To assist in achieving that goal, we test hardware using both objective and subjective criteria. Our objective testing is performed using Ziff-Davis benchmark suites for servers and PC systems and subsystems, or specialized test equipment and software for peripherals such as monitors, modems, and sound cards.

Computer Shopper also has access to ZD's full range of testing resources, including its corporate test center, ZD Labs.

ZD Labs' facilities in Foster City, Calif., include a LAN lab equipped with 600 PCs on 10 Fast Ethernet networks. The center also has a monitor lab whose specialized equipment provides precise measurements of a monitor's convergence, geometric distortion, color accuracy, and brightness, and a modem lab equipped with line simulators for measuring a modem's performance under real-world conditions in a controlled environment. Its sound lab is equipped with signal analyzers and an anechoic chamber to provide precise frequency-response, distortion, and noise measurements of speakers and sound cards. Test results generated at ZD Labs are accompanied by this logo: ZD LABS

Ziff-Davis Benchmark Operation, ZD's research and development division, creates a wide range of PC and server benchmarks that are used by *Computer Shopper* personnel and reviewers to measure system- and subsystem-level performance. Test results generated using ZD benchmarks are accompanied by this logo: ZD

In this guide, we provide an explanation of how we use the benchmarks to test PCs and servers. ▼

Desktop Systems

We test desktop systems using ZD's WinBench 99 and Winstone 99 business benchmark suites. Unless otherwise noted, Pentium II-class systems equipped with 128MB of RAM and Windows NT are also tested with WinBench 99's and Winstone 99's high-end benchmark tests.

All Windows 98-based systems are tested with hard drive read-ahead optimization and graphics acceleration set to full. Virtual memory and disk-cache settings are managed by Windows 98, and the CD-ROM cache size is set at the recommended level for the drive type and the amount of RAM installed. On Windows NT-based systems, Application Performance is set to maximum, and the Initial Paging File size is set to a value equal to 1.5 times the total amount of system memory.



Score differences of up to plus or minus 3 percent are considered insignificant. Results from the 1999 benchmark tests should not be compared with scores published in our 1998 or earlier issues.

The following tests are run using the system's 1,024x768-pixel driver setting with a 75Hz refresh rate and a 24-bit color depth if it is supported; otherwise, a 32-bit color depth setting is used:

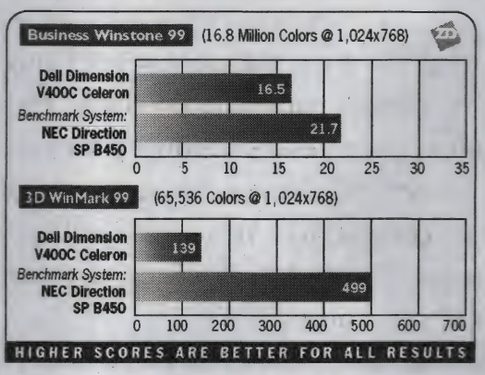
Business Winstone 99
High-End Winstone 99
WinBench 99

- CPUmark$_{32}$
- Business Graphics WinMark 99
- High-End Graphics WinMark 99
- Business Disk WinMark 99
- High-End Disk WinMark 99
- MPEG-1 Playback (352x240-pixel, 300K/sec clip scaled to full screen)

CD WinBench 99

- CD-ROM WinMark 99

On Windows 98-based systems of interest to home users, we run **3D WinBench 99**'s 3D WinMark 99 test at both 800x600 and 1,024x768 pixels with 65,536 colors and an 85Hz refresh rate, as well as its 3D Processing Test at 800x600 with 65,536 colors. Our Windows 98 benchmark system is an NEC Direction SP B450 minitower equipped with a 450MHz Pentium II processor, the Intel 440BX chip set, 64MB of SDRAM, an IBM Deskstar 14GXP 14.4GB Ultra DMA hard drive, a Toshiba SD-M1202 4.8x DVD-ROM (32x CD-ROM) drive, a Diamond Viper V550 AGP graphics card with 16MB of SDRAM, Windows 98, and DirectX 6.0.



Our Windows NT benchmark system is also an NEC Direction SP B450, but this system is equipped with an ATI Xpert@Work AGP graphics card, an NEC CD-R 1900A SCSI CD-ROM drive, a 4GB Seagate Barracuda SCSI-2 hard drive, an Adaptec 2940UW SCSI controller, and Windows NT Workstation 4.0 with Service Pack 3. The RAM level is either 64MB or 128MB as indicated in the benchmark table.

Mobile Systems

We test mobile systems with the same Business Winstone 99 system-level benchmark and WinBench 99 and CD WinBench 99 subsystem tests that we use on desktop systems. All tests are run with 65,536 colors at the native resolution of the notebook's LCD panel. On notebooks whose graphics subsystems support Direct3D acceleration, we also run 3D WinBench 99's 3D WinMark 99 test and 3D Processing Test at 640x480 pixels with a 65,536 color depth.



Mobile systems with 640x480-pixel screens are attached to a CRT and are tested at 800x600 pixels with 65,536 colors. We also measure the system's usable battery life using ZD's BatteryMark 2.0 test.

Our benchmark notebook is a Dell Inspiron 7000 equipped with a 300MHz Pentium II processor, 64MB of SDRAM, an 8GB hard drive, an ATI Rage LT Pro AGP graphics subsystem with 8MB of SGRAM, a 14.1-inch TFT XGA display, and Windows 98 with DirectX 6.0.

Servers

We test servers using two ZD server test suites—NetBench 5.01 and ServerBench 4.01. We run the tests on an isolated 60-node network made up of 12 233MHz Pentium IIs, 32 200MHz Pentium Pros, and 20 166MHz Pentium-based machines, all with 32MB of RAM and running Windows 95.

The network is arranged in two 100Mbps Ethernet segments by connecting the server and clients to two pairs of cascaded Bay Networks 28115 10/100Mbps switches; both the switches and clients are configured for 100Mbps operation.



NetBench accurately depicts the performance of a file and print server in a workgroup-type environment. The test measures how well a server handles I/O requests from network clients that continually hit the server with requests for network file operations.

ServerBench measures server performance in a client/server environment. In this test, clients send transaction requests to the server. These requests require the server to perform certain functions and return data to the clients. ▼

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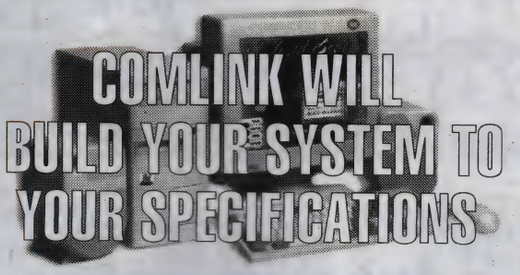
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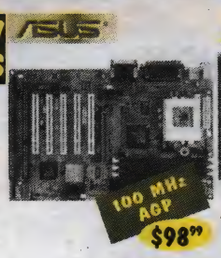
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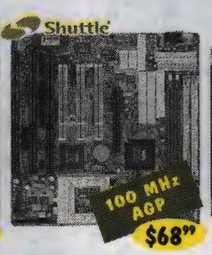
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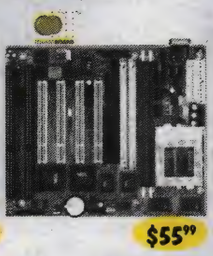
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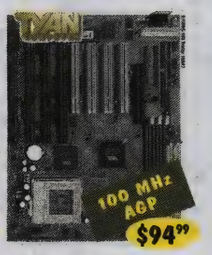












	Asus P5A	FIC PA-2013	FIC VA-503+	Shuttle Hot-591P	Tomato TX98-3D	Tyan S1590S
Chip Set	Ali Aladdin V	VIA Apollo MVP3	VIA Apollo MVP3	VIA Apollo MVP3	VIA Apollo VPX	VIA Apollo MVP3
Frontside Bus Speed	100 or 66 MHz	100 or 66 MHz	100 or 66 MHz	100 or 66 MHz	66 Mhz	100 or 66 MHz
Pipelined Burst Cache Included	512 KBytes	1024 KBytes	1024 KBytes	512 KBytes	512 KBytes	1024 KBytes
Maximum Memory	384 MBytes	768 MBytes	512 MBytes	256 MBytes	512 MBytes	768 MBytes
72-pin SIMMs / 168-pin DIMMs	0 / 3	0 / 3	4 / 2	2 / 2	2 / 2	2 / 3
ECC / Parity Checking	Yes (66Mhz Only)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
2 channel EIDE + High Speed I/O	Yes, UltraATA/33	Yes, UltraATA/33	Yes, UltraATA/33	Yes, UltraATA/33	Yes, UltraATA/33	Yes, UltraATA/33
Flash BIOS	Award w/DMI	Award w/DMI	Award w/DMI	Award w/DMI	AMI w/DMI	Award w/DMI
Other Built-in	No	No	No	No	Crystal 3D Audio	No
Slots PCI / ISA / Shared / AGP	4 P / 1 I / 1 S / 1 AGP	3 P / 1 I / 1 S / 1 AGP	2 P / 2 I / 1 S / 1 AGP	2 P / 2 I / 1 S / 1AGP	3 P / 1 I / 1 S	3 P / 3 I / 1 S / 1AGP
Motherboard size	ATX 12"x8.3"	ATX 12"x8"	¾ Baby AT 8.6"x9.2"	Baby AT 8.6"x 8.1"	Baby AT 8.6"x7.1"	Baby AT 8.8"x11.1"
Warranty	One Year	One Year	One Year	One Year	Three Years	Three Years
Motherboard only	**$98.99**	**$76.99**	**$73.99**	**$68.99**	**$55.99**	**$94.99**
w/AMD-K6-2 w/3DNow! 333	**$173.99**	**$151.99**	**$148.99**	**$143.99**	**N/A**	**$169.99**
w/AMD-K6-2 w/3DNow! 350	**$190.99**	**$168.99**	**$165.99**	**$160.99**	**N/A**	**$186.99**
w/AMD-K6-2 w/3DNow! 380	**$214.99**	**$192.99**	**$189.99**	**$184.99**	**N/A**	**$210.99**
w/AMD-K6-2 w/3DNow! 400	**$253.99**	**$231.99**	**$228.99**	**$223.99**	**N/A**	**$249.99**
w/AMD-K6-2 w/3DNow! 450	**$313.99**	**$291.99**	**$288.99**	**$283.99**	**N/A**	**$309.99**
w/Cyrix M II™-300	**$153.99**	**$131.99**	**$128.99**	**$123.99**	**$110.99**	**$149.99**
w/Cyrix M II™-333	**$188.99**	**$166.99**	**$163.99**	**$158.99**	**N/A**	**$184.99**
w/Intel Pentium® MMX 233	**$173.99**	**$151.99**	**$148.99**	**$143.99**	**$130.99**	**$169.99**
Aberdeen Part Number	*MB5710*	*MB5213*	*MB5211*	*MB5611*	*MB5804*	*MB5006*

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PENTIUM II & III MOTHERBOARDS

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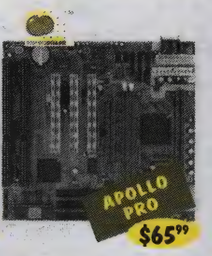












	Abit BM6	FIC KA-6100	FIC VB-601-V	Intel BI440ZX	Super 370SBA	Tomato BX98-AT
Chip Set	Intel 440BX AGPset	VIA Apollo Pro	VIA Apollo Pro	Intel 440ZX AGPset	Intel 440BX AGPset	VIA Apollo Pro
Frontside Bus Speed	100 or 66 MHz	100 or 66 MHz	100 or 66 MHz	66 MHz	100 or 66 MHz	100 or 66 MHz
Maximum Memory	768 MBytes	768 MBytes	1024 MBytes	256 MBytes	768 MBytes	768 MBytes
72-pin SIMMs / 168-pin DIMMs	0 / 3	0 / 3	0 / 4	0 / 2	0 / 3	0 / 3
Flash BIOS	Award w/DMI	Award w/DMI	Award w/DMI	Intel/AMI w/DMI	AMI w/DMI	AMI w/DMI
2 channel EIDE + High Speed I/O	Yes, UltraATA/33	Yes, UltraATA/33	Yes, UltraATA/33	Yes, UltraATA/33	Yes, UltraATA/33	Yes, UltraATA/33
On-Board SCSI	No	No	No	No	No	No
Other Built-in	No	Yamaha Audio	No	Creative PCI 3D Audio	No	No
Slots PCI / ISA / Shared / AGP	4 P / 1 I / 1 S / 1 AGP	2 P / 1 I / 1 S / 1 AGP	4 P / 1 I / 1 S / 1 AGP	2 P / 1 I	3 P / 2 I / 1 S / 1 AGP	3 P / 1 I / 1 S / 1 AGP
Motherboard Size	ATX 12" x 7"	Baby AT 8.6" x 9"	ATX 12" x 7.98"	Micro ATX 9.6" x 9.6"	ATX 12"x7"	Baby AT 8.6"x7.8"
Warranty	One Year	One Year	One Year	Three Years	One Year	Three Years
Made in USA	No	No	No	No	No	No
Motherboard Only	**$115.99**	**$78.99**	**$78.99**	**$117.99**	**$114.99**	**$65.99**
w/Intel Celeron™ 333 128K	**$205.99**	**$168.99**	**$168.99**	**$207.99**	**$204.99**	**$155.99**
w/Intel Celeron 366 128K	**$229.99**	**$202.99**	**$202.99**	**$231.99**	**$228.99**	**$189.99**
w/Intel Celeron 400 128K	**$276.99**	**$248.99**	**$248.99**	**$278.99**	**$275.99**	**$235.99**
w/Intel Celeron 433 128K	**$318.99**	**$288.99**	**$288.99**	**$320.99**	**$317.99**	**$275.99**
w/Intel Pentium™ II 350 512K	**N/A**	**$298.99**	**$298.99**	**N/A**	**N/A**	**$285.99**
w/Intel Pentium II 400 / 450 512K	**N/A**	**$398.99 / $628.99**	**$398.99 / $628.99**	**N/A**	**N/A**	**$385.99 / $615.99**
w/Intel Pentium III 450 512K	**N/A**	**$668.99**	**$668.99**	**N/A**	**N/A**	**$655.99**
w/Intel Pentium III 500 512K	**N/A**	**$888.99**	**$888.99**	**N/A**	**N/A**	**$875.99**
Aberdeen Part Number	*MB6504*	*MB6408*	*MB6407*	*MB6914*	*MB6131*	*MB6806*

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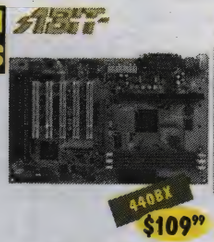
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PENTIUM II & III MOTHERBOARDS













	Abit BH6	Abit BX6	Asus P2B98	Asus P2B-B	Asus XG-DLS	Intel SE440BX-2
Chip Set	Intel 440BX AGPset	Intel 440BX AGPset	Intel 440BX AGPset	Intel 440BX AGPset	Intel 440GX AGPset	Intel 440BX AGPset
Frontside Bus Speed	100 or 66 MHz	100 or 66 MHz	100 or 66 MHz	100 or 66 MHz	100 or 66 MHz	100 or 66 MHz
Maximum Memory	384 MBytes	1024 MBytes	768 MBytes	768 MBytes	2048 MBytes	768 MBytes
72-pin SIMMs / 168-pin DIMMs	0 / 3	0 / 4	0 / 3	0 / 3	0 / 4	0 / 3
Flash BIOS	Award w/DMI	Award w/DMI	Award w/DMI	Award w/DMI	Award w/DMI	Intel/Phoenix w/DMI
2 channel EIDE + High Speed I/O	Yes, UltraATA/33	Yes, UltraATA/33	Yes, UltraATA/33	Yes, UltraATA/33	Yes, UltraATA/33	Yes, UltraATA/33
On-Board SCSI	No	No	Avail. on P2B98-S	Avail. on P2B98-S	Adaptec 7896 2-Ch U2W	No
Other Built-in	No	No	No	No	Intel 82558 10/100	No
Slots PCI / ISA / Shared / AGP	4 P / 1 I / 1 S / 1 AGP	4 P / 1 I / 1 S / 1 AGP	3 P / 2 I / 1 S / 1 AGP	2 P / 1 I / 1 S / 1 AGP	4 P / 0 I / 1 S / 1 AGP	3 P / 1 I / 1 S / 1 AGP
Motherboard Size	ATX 12" x 7"	ATX 12" x 8"	ATX 12" x 7.5"	Baby AT 8.7" x 9"	ATX 12" x 10.5"	ATX 12" x 7.75"
Warranty	One Year	One Year	One Year	One Year	One Year	Three Years
Made in USA	No	No	No	No	No	No
Motherboard Only	**$109.99**	**$122.99**	**$137.99**	**$138.99**	**$839.99**	**$129.99**
w/Intel Celeron™ 333 128K	**$199.99**	**$212.99**	**$227.99**	**$228.99**	**Xeon 500 512K $1969.99**	**$219.99**
w/Intel Celeron 366 / 400 128K	**$233.99 / $279.99**	**$246.99 / $292.99**	**$261.99 / $307.99**	**$262.99 / $308.99**	**Xeon 500 1M $3209.99**	**$253.99 / $299.99**
w/Intel Celeron 433 128K	**$319.99**	**$332.99**	**$347.99**	**$348.99**	**Xeon 500 2M $5219.99**	**$339.99**
w/Intel Pentium™ II 350 / 400 512K	**$329.99 / $429.99**	**$342.99 / $442.99**	**$357.99 / $457.99**	**$358.99 / $458.99**	**Dual 500 512K $3099.99**	**$349.99 / $449.99**
w/Intel Pentium II 450 512K	**$659.99**	**$672.99**	**$687.99**	**$688.99**	**Dual 500 1M $5579.99**	**$679.99**
w/Intel Pentium III 450 / 500 512K	**$699.99 / $919.99**	**$712.99 / $932.99**	**$727.99 / $947.99**	**$728.99 / $948.99**	**Dual 500 2M $9599.99**	**$719.99 / $939.99**
w/Dual Intel Pentium II 450 512K	**N/A**	**N/A**	**$1589.99** (P2B98-DS)	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**
w/Dual Intel Pentium III 500 512K	**N/A**	**N/A**	**$2109.99** (P2B98-DS)	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**
Aberdeen Part Number	*MB6503*	*MB6502*	*MB6705*	*MB6714*	*MB6713*	*MB6913*













	Super P6DGU	Super P6SBA	Super P6SBU	Super S2DGU	Tyan S1830S	Tyan S1846S
Chip Set	Intel 440GX AGPset	Intel 440BX AGPset	Intel 440BX AGPset	Intel 440GX AGPset	Intel 440BX AGPset	Intel 440BX AGPset
Frontside Bus Speed	100 or 66 MHz	100 or 66 MHz	100 or 66 MHz	100 or 66 MHz	100 or 66 MHz	100 or 66 MHz
Maximum Memory	2048 MBytes	768 MBytes	1024 MBytes	2048 MBytes	1024 MBytes	1024 MBytes
72-pin SIMMs / 168-pin DIMMs	0 / 4	0 / 3	0 / 4	0 / 4	0 / 4	0 / 4
Flash BIOS	AMI w/DMI	AMI w/DMI	AMI w/DMI	AMI w/DMI	AMI w/DMI	AMI w/DMI
2 channel EIDE + High Speed I/O	Yes, UltraATA/33	Yes, UltraATA/33	Yes, UltraATA/33	Yes, UltraATA/33	Yes, UltraATA/33	Yes, UltraATA/33
On-Board SCSI	Adaptec 7890 U2W	No	Adaptec 7890 U2W	Adaptec 7890 U2W	No	No
Other Built-in	RAIDport III	No	RAIDport III	RAIDport III	No	No
Slots PCI / ISA / Shared / AGP	4 P / 1 I / 1 S / 1 AGP	3 P / 2 I / 1 S / 1 AGP	3 P / 2 I / 1 S / 1 AGP	4 P / 1 I / 1 S / 1 AGP	3 P / 3 I / 1 S / 1 AGP	4 P / 1 I / 1 S / 1 AGP
Motherboard Size	ATX 12" x 9.7"	ATX 12"x7"	ATX 12"x8.9"	Modified ATX 12" x 9.7"	Baby AT 13"x8.6"	ATX 12" x 8.3"
Warranty	One Year	One Year	One Year	One Year	Three Years	Three Years
Made in USA	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Motherboard Only	**$479.99**	**$112.99**	**$349.99**	**$539.99**	**$136.99**	**$113.99**
w/Intel Celeron™ 333 128K	**$569.99**	**$202.99**	**$439.99**	**Xeon 500 512K $1669.99**	**$226.99**	**$203.99**
w/Intel Celeron 366 / 400 128K	**$603.99 / $649.99**	**$236.99 / $282.99**	**$473.99 / $519.99**	**Xeon 500 1M $2909.99**	**$260.99 / $306.99**	**$237.99 / $283.99**
w/Intel Celeron 433 128K	**$689.99**	**$322.99**	**$559.99**	**Xeon 500 2M $4919.99**	**$346.99**	**$323.99**
w/Intel Pentium™ II 350 / 400 512K	**$699.99 / $799.99**	**$332.99 / $432.99**	**$569.99 / $669.99**	**Dual 500 512K $2799.99**	**$356.99 / $456.99**	**$333.99 / $433.99**
w/Intel Pentium II 450 512K	**$1029.99**	**$662.99**	**$899.99**	**Dual 500 1M $5279.99**	**$686.99**	**$663.99**
w/Intel Pentium III 450 / 500 512K	**$1069.99 / $1289.99**	**$702.99 / $922.99**	**$939.99 / $1159.99**	**Dual 500 2M $9299.99**	**$726.99 / $946.99**	**$703.99 / $923.99**
w/Dual Intel Pentium II 450 512K	**$1579.99**	**$1321.99** (P6DBE)	**$1549.99** (P6DBU)	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**
w/Dual Intel Pentium III 500 512K	**$2099.99**	**$1841.99** (P6DBE)	**$2069.99** (P6DBU)	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**
Aberdeen Part Number	*MB6122*	*MB6120*	*MB6128*	*MB6127*	*MB6012*	*MB6011*

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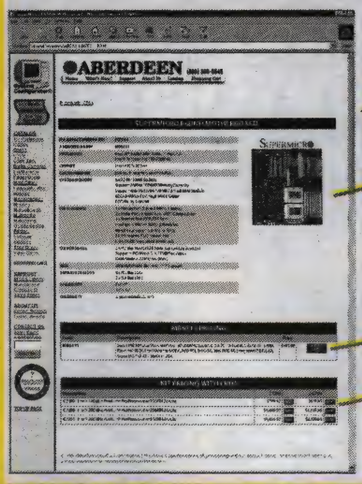
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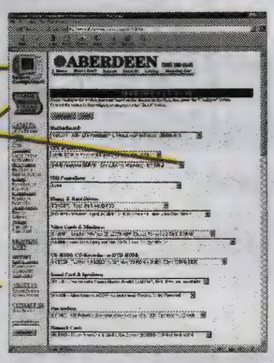
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- Creative Labs Ensoniq AudioPCI PnP 32-Voice Wavetable Sound Card
- Creative Labs Cambridge Soundworks PC Works 3-Piece Shielded Speaker System
- LS-120 120MB / 1.44MB Floppy Disk Drive
- Microsoft Natural Keyboard, Logitech USB Wheel Mouse
- Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition

PENTIUM III PROCESSOR 500MHz	$2599
PENTIUM III PROCESSOR 450MHz	$2379

ABERDEEN INVERNESS D83
INTEL® CELERON™ PROCESSOR 433MHz

- Tomato CreateLXe-ATX Motherboard with Intel 440EX AGPset and 66MHz Frontside System Bus
- 128KB Integrated L2 cache
- 64MB SDRAM Memory (256MB Max)
- Western Digital AC26400 6.4GB 5400rpm 9.5ms Ultra ATA/66 Hard Drive with 512KB Buffer
- Jaton Video-740AGP AGP 2X Graphic Accelerator with Intel740™ and 8MB SDRAM
- KDS AV-5T 15" (13.8") Dark Sony Trinitron .25mm dp 1280x1024@60Hz Monitor
- Acer CD-636A 36X Max Variable CD-ROM
- SmartLink 56K V.90 PCI Voice Faxmodem
- Creative 3D Audio
- MLi-168 2x5W Shielded Speaker System
- SuperMini Tower: 7 Drive Bays: 1 External 3.5" (1 Used) / 4 Internal 3.5" (1 Used) / 3 External 5.25" (1 Used)
- 235W ATX v2.01 UL Power Supply
- 7 Expansion Slots: 5 PCI Slots (2 Used) / 2 ISA Slots (0 Used) / 1 AGP (Used) Slot

CELERON PROCESSOR 433MHz	$999
CELERON PROCESSOR 400MHz	$969
CELERON PROCESSOR 366MHz	$929

ABERDEEN INVERNESS D31
AMD-K6®-III PROCESSOR 450MHz
with 3DNow!™

- FIC VA-503+ Motherboard with VIA Apollo MVP3 AGP Chip Set and 100MHz Frontside System Bus
- 1MB Pipelined Burst Integrated L2 cache
- 128MB 100MHz SDRAM PC100 Memory (512MB Max)
- Western Digital AC313000 13GB 5400rpm 9.5ms Ultra ATA/66 Hard Drive with 512KB Buffer
- Diamond Viper V550 AGP 2X Graphic Accelerator with NVIDIA RIVA TNT and 16MB SDRAM with TV-Output
- Tatung C7TZR-25 17" (15.9") .25mm dp 1280x1024@60Hz Monitor
- Toshiba SD-M1202 DVD 4.8X DVD 32X CD-ROM
- SmartLink 56K V.90 PCI Voice Faxmodem
- SmartLink 10/100 PCI Ethernet Network Card
- Creative Labs Sound Blaster Live! Value 512-Voice Wavetable Sound Card with Environmental Audio
- Creative Labs Cambridge Soundworks PC Works 3-Piece Shielded Speaker System
- Logitech Internet Keyboard with 17 Internet Buttons
- 7 Expansion Slots: 3 PCI Slots (3 Used) / 3 ISA Slots (0 Used) / 1 AGP (Used) Slot

AMD-K6-III PROCESSOR 450MHz	$1999
AMD-K6-2 PROCESSOR 450MHz	$1769
AMD-K6-2 PROCESSOR 400MHz	$1689

GAMING

ABERDEEN INVERNESS D49G
INTEL® PENTIUM® III PROCESSOR 500MHz

▼As reviewed in COMPUTER GAMING WORLD

- SuperMicro P6DBU Motherboard with Intel 440BX AGPset and 100MHz Frontside System Bus
- Dual Processor Capable
- 512KB ECC Integrated L2 cache
- 256MB SDRAM Memory (1GB Max)
- Seagate Cheetah 18 ST118202LW 18.2GB 10000rpm 5.7ms Ultra2 SCSI LVD Hard Drive w/1024KB Buffer
- Diamond Viper V550 AGP 2X Graphic Accelerator with RIVA TNT and 16MB SDRAM, TV Output
- Dual Diamond Monster 3D II Graphic Accelerators with Voodoo2 and 12MB SDRAM each
- ViewSonic PT775 17" (16") .25AG 1600@77Hz USB Monitor
- Toshiba SD-M1202 4.8X DVD-ROM / 32X CD-ROM
- REALmagic Hollywood Plus PCI decoder
- Intel EtherExpress PRO/100+ TX PCI Ethernet Adapter
- US Robotics Sportster External V.90 Faxmodem
- Iomega Zip ATAPI Insider 100MB Internal Drive
- Diamond Monster Sound MX300 PCI Aureal A3D 64-Voice Wavetable Sound Card
- Creative Labs Cambridge Soundworks MicroWorks 3-Piece Shielded Speaker System
- Logitech WingMan, ThrustMaster Rage 3D, more...

PENTIUM III PROCESSOR 500MHz	$4999

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- Dual Processors
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- 128MB 10ns SDRAM Memory (2GB Max)
- 8MB Parity I_2O Buffer (64MB Max)
- IBM DRVS 9LZX 9.1GB 10020rpm 5.6ms Ultra2 SCSI LVD Hard Drive w/4096KB Buffer
- Adaptec 7896 Dual Channel Ultra2 SCSI LVD Controller
- Jaton Video-71AGP 3D AGP 1X Graphic Accelerator with 128-bit S3 Trio3D, 4MB SGRAM
- Acer CD-636A 36X Max Variable CD-ROM
- 3Com Fast EtherLink XL TX 10/100 PCI Adapter
- MS Windows NT® Server 4.0 w/10 Client Access Licenses
- Dual 300W Hot-Swap Redundant Power Supplies
- SuperMicro SC801-S Server Tower 13 Drive Bays: 2 External 3.5" (1 Used) / 11 External 5.25" (2 Used)
- 12 Expansion Slots: 9 PCI Slots (3 Used) / 3 ISA Slots

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INTEL® PENTIUM® III PROCESSOR 500MHz

- SuperMicro P6SBU Motherboard with Intel 440BX AGPset and 100MHz Frontside System Bus
- 512KB ECC Integrated L2 cache
- 64MB 100MHz SDRAM PC100 Memory (512MB Max)
- IBM Ultrastar 9ES 4.5GB 7200rpm 7.5ms Ultra2 SCSI Hard Drive with 512KB Buffer
- Adaptec AIC-7890 Ultra2 SCSI Controller
- Diamond Stealth II S220 Graphic Accelerator with Rendition Verite V2100 and 4MB SDRAM
- Toshiba XM-6402B 32X Max Variable CD-ROM
- 3Com Fast EtherLink XL TX 10/100 PCI Adapter
- MS Windows NT® Server 4.0 w/5 Client Access Licenses
- 300W ATX v2.01 UL Power Supply
- Server Tower 11 Drive Bays: 1 External 3.5" (1 Used) / 2 Internal 3.5" (1 Used) / 7 External 5.25" (1 Used) / 1 Internal 5.25" (0 Used)
- 7 Expansion Slots: 4 PCI Slots (2 Used) / 3 ISA Slots (0 Used) / 1 AGP (0 Used) Slot

PENTIUM III PROCESSOR 500MHz	$2599
PENTIUM III PROCESSOR 450MHz	$2369
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WORKSTATIONS

ABERDEEN INVERNESS W21
PENTIUM® III XEON™ PROCESSOR 500MHz

▼3.3 million polygons per second (25 pixel, 50% backface removed)

- SuperMicro S2DGU Motherboard with Intel 440GX AGPset and 100MHz Frontside System Bus
- Dual Processor Capable
- 2048 / 1024 / 512KB ECC Integrated L2 cache
- 128MB 100MHz ECC SDRAM PC100 Memory with Parity (512MB Max)
- IBM DRVS 9LZX 9.1GB 10020rpm 5.6ms Ultra2 SCSI LVD Hard Drive w/4096KB Buffer
- Adaptec 7890 LVD Controller with RAIDport
- Leadtek WinFast 3D L3100 AGP Graphic Accelerator with Dual 3Dlabs Glint GMX 2000 and Gamma / 16MB VRAM Frame Buffer, 80MB EDO DRAM Local Buffer / OpenGL, Heidi, Direct3D, DirectDraw
- ViewSonic P815 21" (20") .25mm dp 1800x1440@76Hz Monitor
- Toshiba XM-6202B 32X Max Variable CD-ROM
- MS Windows NT® Workstation 4.0
- 300W ATX v2.01 UL Power Supply
- Server Tower 11 Drive Bays: 1 External 3.5" (1 Used) / 2 Internal 3.5" (1 Used) / 7 External 5.25" (1 Used) / 1 Internal 5.25" (0 Used)
- Acer Keyboard, MS IntelliMouse®, 1.44MB Floppy Disk Drive, Two USB Ports
- 7 Expansion Slots: 4 PCI Slots (1 Used) / 3 ISA Slots / 1 AGP (Used) Slot

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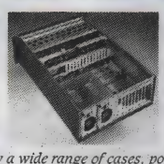
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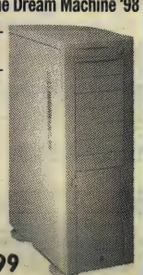
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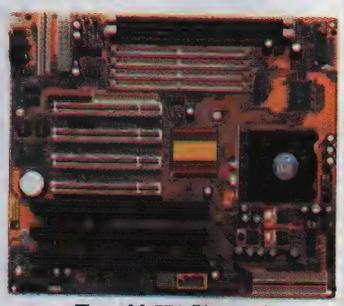
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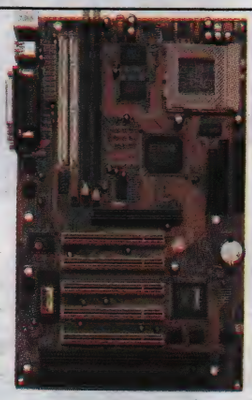
Tiger M-571 Pictured

Tiger 571 Form Factor: **AT** • CPU: **Socket 7** • Bus Speed: **Up to 83 MHz** • On Board Video: **PCI 4MB** • On Board Audio: **YES** • PCI Slots: **4** • ISA Slots: **3** • Memory: **2DIMM/4SIMM** • Max Memory: **128/256 MB**
Tiger 573 Form Factor: **AT** • CPU: **Socket 7** • Bus Speed: **Up to 75MHz** • On Board Video: **No** • On Board Audio: **YES** • PCI Slots: **4** • ISA Slots: **2** • Memory: **2DIMM/4SIMM** • Max Memory: **128/256 MB**

Tiger SY-5EMA ATX Super Socket 7

Motherboard & Case: Motherboard mounted in dual-cooling fan ATX case with 1MB Cache ; 235-watt power supply, cables, manual

Pre-Assembled Kits: Motherboard in dual-cooling fan case; keyboard, speakers, mouse, 3D AGP video, 56KFlex faxmodem, 1.44MB floppy drive, 24X CD-ROM, Wave Table sound.

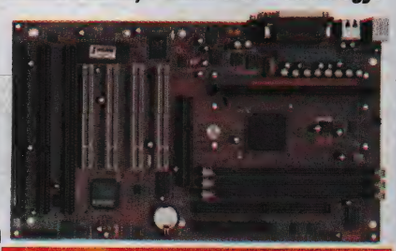


Tiger SY-5EMA Motherboard Features At-A-Glance

Form Factor: **ATX** • CPU: **Socket 7** • Bus Speed: **Up to 100 MHz** • AGP Slots: **1** • PCI Slots: **5** • ISA Slots: **2** • Memory: **2DIMM/2 SIMM Sockets** • Max Memory: **512MB**

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Tiger 6KE LX Motherboard Features At-A-Glance

Form Factor: **ATX** • CPU: **Slot 1** • Bus Speed: **Up to 66 MHz** • PCI Slots: **4** • ISA Slots: **3** • Memory: **3 DIMM Sockets** • Max Memory: **384 MB**

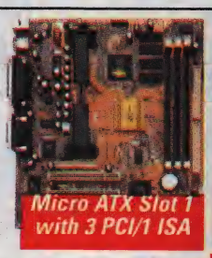
Tiger 6BE+ BX Motherboard Features At-A-Glance

Form Factor: **ATX** • CPU: **Slot 1** • Bus Speed: **Up to 100MHz** • PCI Slots: **4** • ISA Slots: **3** • Memory: **3 DIMM Sockets** • Max Memory: **768 MB**

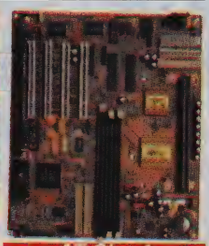
Tiger 767 AT, 760 ATX Slot 1

Motherboard & Case: Motherboard mounted in dual-cooling fan case; cables & manual

Pre-Assembled Kits: Motherboard in dual-cooling fan case; keyboard, speakers, mouse, 3D AGP video, 56KFlex faxmodem, 1.44MB floppy drive, 24X CD-ROM, Wave Table sound.



Micro ATX Slot 1 with 3 PCI/1 ISA



AT Slot 1 with 4 PCI/1 ISA

Tiger 767 Form Factor: **AT** • CPU: **Slot 1** • Bus Speed: **Up to 100 MHz** • On Board Video: **8MB AGP** • On Board Audio: **YES** • PCI Slots: **4** • ISA Slots: **1** • Memory: **DIMM** • Max Memory: **768 MB**
Tiger 760 Form Factor: **Micro AT X** • CPU: **Slot 1** • Bus Speed: **Up to 100MHz** • On Board Video: **8MB AGP** • On Board Audio: **YES** • PCI Slots: **3** • ISA Slots: **1** • Memory: **DIMM** • Max Memory: **768 MB**

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Tiger 6KE LX ATX Slot 1	**Celeron** up to 333MHz **Intel** Pentium II up to 333MHz	MB1-T-10A	$45.99	$35.99	BB1-T-10A Unassembled—ATX case with 235-Watt power supply & Free Floppy Drive	$114.99	$99.99	Not Available		
Tiger 6BE+ BX ATX Slot 1	**Celeron** up to 500MHz **Intel** Pentium II up to 500MHz	MB1-T-9A	$84.99	$77.99	BB1-T-9A Unassembled—ATX case with 235-Watt power supply & Free Floppy Drive	$149.99	$139.99	Not Available		

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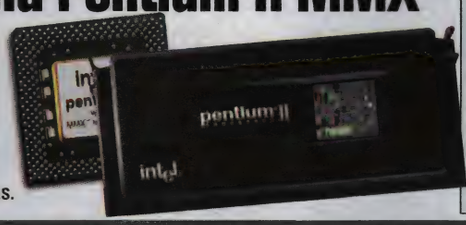


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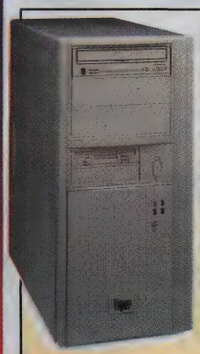
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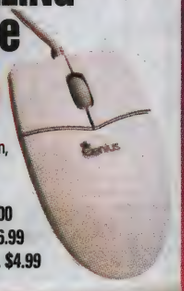
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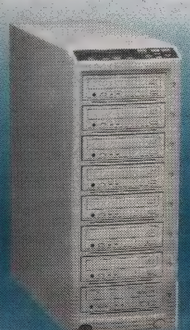
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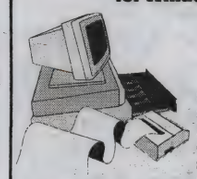
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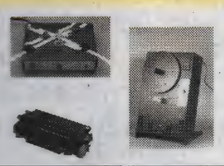
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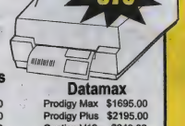
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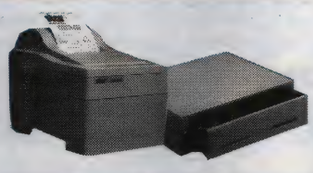
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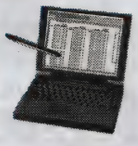
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16Meg	34	—	—	—	129 / 139	139 / 149
32Meg	59	59	59	69	219 / 269	239 / 289
64Meg	99	119	119	124	399 / 599	—/ 629
128Meg	194	224	209	239		
256Meg	499	599	599	639		

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Unbuffered					
3.3V ECC, EDO	49	89	149	259	599
3.3V EDO	44	74	159	279	599
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3.3V ECC, EDO	49	94	149	289	589

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2 x 32 8 mg	24	—	—
4 x 32 16 mg	46	—	—
8 x 32 32 mg	89	—	—
16 x 32 64 mg	159	—	—
1 x 32 4 mg EDO	13	4	—
2 x 32 8 mg EDO	19	—	—
4 x 32 16 mg EDO	44	—	—
8 x 32 32 mg EDO	77	—	—
16x32 64 mg EDO	127	—	—

	60NS	70NS	80NS
256 x 36	—	14	14
512 x 36	—	3	2
256 x 32	—	2	2
512 x 32	—	4	3
1 x 36 4 mg	—	9	—
2 x 36 8 mg	29	—	—
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4Meg x 9 (9 chip)	15.00	19.00	19.00
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Dimension XPS D233, D266, D300, D333 (ECC)	.32/64/128Meg .63/119/229
Dimension XPS 1333, 166S, 200S, P133V, P200V (SDRAM)	.16/32Meg .39/69
Dimension XPS R350, R400, R450 (PC-100)	.64/118Meg .119/229
Dimension XPS V333, V350, V350 (PC-100)	.32/64/128Meg .119/229
Dimension XPS M166A, M200A, M200S (SDRAM)	.16/32Meg .39/69
Dimension XPS Pent II H233, H266 (EDO pairs)	.8/16/32Meg .19/44/79
Dimension XPS P100C, 120C, 133C, 166C (EDO pairs)	.4/8/16/32Meg .11/19/36/79
Dimension XPS P60, P75, P90, P100 (FPM pairs)	.4/8/16/32Meg .10/19/49/89
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Thinkpad 365X, 365XD	.8/16/32Meg	.29/49/79	.185/—
Thinkpad 380, 380D, 380E, 385ED, 385XD	.16/32/64Meg	.49/79/139	.119/236
Thinkpad 560, 560E, 560D	.8/16/32/64Meg	.29/49/79/139	.241/—
Thinkpad 600, 770, ED (SDRAM)	.16/32/64/128Meg	.39/79/139/399	
Thinkpad 700, 720, 750, CL/S/SX	.4/8/16/32Meg	.54/79/90/199	.140/175
Thinkpad 701, 701C, 701CS	.4/8/16/32Meg	.19/29/49/89	.119/—
Thinkpad 755C,CD,CS,CDV,CSE,CV	.4/8/16Meg	.44/54/79	.140/271
Thinkpad 760C, ED, L, LD	.8/16/32Meg	.29/49/79	.140/271
Thinkpad 760E, ED, EL, ELD	.8/16/32Meg	.29/44/79	.140/271
Thinkpad 760XD, 760XL	.8/16/32Meg	.29/44/79	.140/271
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G6-200 Prof. System – SDRAM	.16/32Meg	.39/69
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Prolinea 6150E, 6166E (pairs)	.8/16/32Meg	.29/49/89
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Armada 1130, 1130T	.8/16/32/64Meg	.24/44/79/139	.184/—
Armada All 1500 Series	.8/16/32/64Meg	.24/44/79/139	.139/229
Armada1700, 3500, 7400	.16/32/64/128Meg	.39/79/149/429	—/219
Armada 4100, 4110D, 4120T, 4125D (KII)	.8/16/32/64/128Meg Kit	.29/49/99/139/279	—/219
Armada 4130T, 4131T, 4150, 4160T (KII)	.8/16/32/64/128Meg Kit	.29/49/99/139/279	
Armada 4210T, 4220T (KII)	.8/16/32/64/128Meg	.29/49/99/139/279	
Armada 6500	.32/64/128Meg	.79/139/429	
Armada 7300, 7330, 7350, 7360, 7362, 7370, 7380, 7800	.16/32/64Meg	.44/79/139	—/231
Armada M 7700 Series	.16/32/64Meg	.44/79/139	—/229
Armada 5800 Series 5200, 5231, 5233, 5288	.16/32/64Meg	.44/79/139	
Armada 5800 Series 6233/J2T	.16/32/64/128Meg	.39/79/149/429	
Contura 400S, 4/25Cx	.4/8/16/32Meg	.31/44/79	.119/—
Contura 4000C, 4100C, 410CX	.4/8/16Meg	.5/44/74	.184/—
Contura 4000, 4080, 4300C, 430CX	.4/8/16/24/48Meg	.31/44/74/89	.184/—
LTE 5000, 5100, 5200, 5300, 5400 (KII)	.8/16/32/64Meg Kit	.3/10/49/119/229	.139/259
Presario 1000, 1010, 1020, 1030, 1070, 1080	.8/16/32Meg	.19/54/129	.118/217
Presario All 1200, 1600, 1800 Series	.16/32/64Meg	.39/79/139	.112/236

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Tecra 500CDT, CS, 510CDS, CDT, 520CDT, 530CDT	.8/16/32/48/64/128Meg	.22/44/79/119/139/269	231/238
Tecra 540, 550, 550CDT	.8/16/32/64/128Meg	.22/44/79/139/269	259—
Tecra 700CS, 700CT (SDRAM)	.16/32/64/128Meg	.59/89/149	279/299
Tecra 710CDT, 720CDT, 730CDT, 730XCDT, 740CDT	.8/16/32/64/128Meg	.39/49/89/149/269	279/259
Tecra 750CDT, 750DVD, 780 Series	.8/16/32/64Meg	.22/44/79/139	
Tecra 8000 Series	.32/64/128Meg	.79/149/429	
T2100 Series	.4/8/16/32Meg	.4/29/49/79	.184/—
T1900, T4500, T4600, T4700, T4900 All Models	.4/8/16/32Meg	.33/49/89/119	.184/—
T1400, T1600, T2000 Series	.16Meg	.99	
Satellite 1100CDT, 1105CDS, 1105CS, 1100T, 1115CS	.8/16/32Meg	.39/59/89	.184/—
Satellite 2000CDS, 2050DS, 2100CS, CT Series	.8/16/32Meg	.39/59/89	.184/—
Satellite 2200CDS, 2205CDS, 2300CS	.8/16/32/48/64/128Meg	.24/44/79/119/139/269	199/—
Satellite 300, 305, 310, 315, 320, 325, 330, 335 Series	.8/16/32/64/128Meg	.22/44/79/139/289	199/259
Satellite 2500DS	.16/32/64Meg	.44/149	
Satellite 4000 Series	.32/64/128Meg	.79/149/429	
Satellite Pro 400, 405, 410, 415, 420, 425, 430, 435 Series	.8/16/32Meg	.39/59/89	
Satellite Pro 440CDT, 440CDX, 445, 460CDT	.8/16/32/48/64/128Meg	.24/44/79/119/139/289	199/269
Satellite Pro 465, 470, 480	.8/16/32/48/64/128Meg	.24/44/79/119/139/289	199/269
Satellite Pro 490	.16/32/64/128Meg	.44/79/139/289	
Portege 610CT, 620CT	.8/16/32Meg	.39/59/89	
Portege 650CT, 660CDT	.16/32/64Meg	.59/89/159	—/219
Portege 7000, 7010	.64/128Meg	.149/429	

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S-Ram Cards	.1/2/4/8Meg	.79/139/259/Call	
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ACER Extensa 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395	.16/32/64Meg	.49/89/149	
ACERNote 763, 785, 782, 784, 786	.4/8/16Meg	.19/29/49	
ACERNote Light 356, 358, 359, 361 (pairs) edo	.4/8/16Meg	.19/29/64 ea	.147/—
ACERNote 900 Series 971, 972, 373, 374	.4/8/16Meg	.29/49/79	
ACERNote Pro 950, 954, 955, 957, 959 (pairs)	.4/8/16Meg	.19/29/64 ea	
ACER Timelinemate	.Call	.Call	
AST Ascentia A Series and M Series	.8/16/32/64Meg	.29/49/79/139	.154/219
AST Ascentia P30, P50	.8/16/32Meg	.49/89/109	.—/289
AST Ascentia J10, J30,J50 (pairs)	.8/16/20Meg	.19/29/69/89 ea	.—/189
AST Ascentia 800N, 810N, 900N, 910N	.4/8/16Meg	.46/58/79	.105, 147/187
AST Ascentia 950N	.4/8/16/32Meg	.59/79	.—/187
AST Ascentia M5230 J/M 5260X	.16/32/64Meg	.49/89/149	
AT&T Globalyst 300	.8/16Meg	.29/49	.103/—
Canon Innova Book 350CD, 360, 475 (pairs)	.8/16Meg	.29/69 ea	.119/—
Canon Innova Book 480, 490 EDO (pairs)	.8/16Meg	.29/69 ea	.119/—
CTX EZ Book 300 EDO (pairs)	.8/16/32Meg	.39/69/109 ea	.138/—
CTX EZ Book 500, 600 Series	.4/8/16/32Meg	.19/29/69	.138/—
CTX EZ Book 700, 760, 770 (EDO) (pairs)	.4/8/16/32Meg	.19/29/69/109 ea	.138/—
CTX EZ Book 760MT, 765MT (EDO)	.8/16/32Meg	.29/59/109 sa	.138/—
DEC HiNote Ultra 2000	.16/32/64Meg	.49/79/139	
DEC HiNote VP 520,525,535,545/150MMX (pairs)	.4/8/16Meg	.19/29/69 ea	.119/259
DEC HiNote VP 540, 5150, 5120	.8/16/32/64Meg	.29/49/79/149	.119/—
DEC HiNote VP, CSS, LSS, CTS, LTS	.8/16/32/64Meg	.29/49/79/149	.119/—
DEC HiNote VP700, 703	.16/32/64Meg	.49/79/149	
Dell Inspiron 3000, 3200, 7000	.16/32/64Meg	.49/79/139	.—/229
Dell Latitude CP & CPi Series	.8/16/32/64Meg	.29/49/149	
Dell Latitude LM, LM P166MMX (pairs)	.4/8/16/32Meg	.49/89/109 sa	.—/245
Dell Lattitude 433, C, CX	.4/16Meg	.49/79	.119/—
Dell Lattitude LX, M	.4/8/16Meg	.49/58/89	.105/—
Dell Latitude XP, XPi, XPi CD M166ST (pairs)	.4 /8/16/32Meg	.19/29/69/109 ea	
Epson ActionNote 650, 650c, 660c, 660cx	.8/16/32Meg	.9/29/69	.119/—
Epson ActionNote 880, 866c, 890, 910	.4/8/16/20Meg	.19/29/89/99	.119/—
Fujitsu Lifebook 400, 500, 600 Series	.8/16/32/64Meg	.29/59/79/149	.103/203
Fujitsu Lifebook 600, 700, 900 Series	.8/16/32/64Meg	.49/79/139	.103/203
Fujitsu Monte Carlo, Montego, Milan	.8/16/32/64Meg	.29/49/79/149	.—/203
Gateway 2000 Solo Series 4100	.8Meg	.69/179	.112/—
Gateway 2000 Solo Series (pairs)	.4/8/16Meg	.19/29/69 sa	
Gateway Solo Series 2100, 2200 edo	.8/16/32Meg	.49/79/139	.—/219
Gateway Solo 2300, 2500, 3100, 5100, 9100	.16/32/64Meg	.49/79/139	
Hitachi C-Series	.8/16/32Meg	.29/44/139	
Hitachi C-Series, MMX Series	.8/16/32Meg	.49/69/119	.119/219
Hitachi M-Series	.8/16/32Meg	.49/69/129	.104/—
Hitachi Visionmate Elite, Plus, Pro	.8/16/32/64Meg	.29/49/79/149	.104/217
HP Omnibook 800	.8/16/32/64Meg	.49/79/129/169	—/145
HP Omnibook 2100 PII, 4100	.32/64/128Meg	.89/169/259	
HP Omnibook 4000C, CT, C	.4/8/16Meg	.49/54/79	.125/—
HP Omnibook 5000C, CTS, C, 5500CS	.8/16/32Meg	.54/79/129	.126/—
Micron Go Book 233 Lite, 233, 266	.16/32/64Meg	.49/89/169	
Micron MilleniaTransport Pentium (pairs), MRX	.8/16Meg	.29/69 ea	
Micron MilleniaTransport VLX P133 (pairs)	.8/16/32Meg	.19/29/69 ea	
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NEC Ready Notebook 220T, 330T	.16/32/64/128Meg	.49/89/169/299	.133/—
NEC Ultralite Versa, E, V, MP	.4/8/16/32Meg	.9/44/79/129	.133/—
NEC Versa 2800 Series (pairs)	.8/16/32Meg	.19/29/69 sa	
NEC Versa 4000, 4050/4080, 4200, 4230	.4/8/16/20Meg	.39/49/79/139	.—/219
NEC Versa 6000, 6020, 6030	.8/16/32/64Meg	.39/79/99/189	
NEC Versa 6200MX edo	.8/16/32/64Meg	.49/89/169	
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Sharp 3010, 3020, 3050, 3060	.4/8/16/32Meg	.19/29/59/119	.133/—
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TI 6000, 6030, 6050, 6100	.8/16/32Meg	.59/89/129	.—/215
TI Extensa 450, 450T, 455, 455T	.4/8/16Meg	.19/29/89	.147/—
TI Extensa 510, 515 (pairs) edo	.4/8/16Meg	.19/29/69 ea	.147/—
TI Extensa 550, 555, 560, 570 (pairs)	.4/8/16/32Meg	.19/29/69/89 ea	.181/—
TI Extensa 600, 605, 650, 900, T, CDT edo	.8/16/32Meg	.29/69/89	.147/—
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Winbook XL, XLi, XL2	.16/32/64Meg	.49/79/119	.112/217
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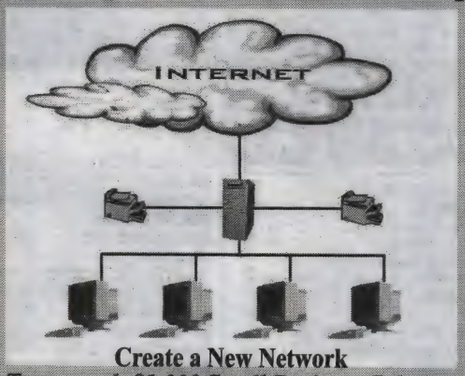
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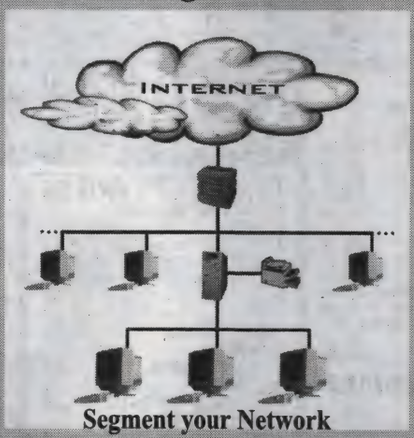
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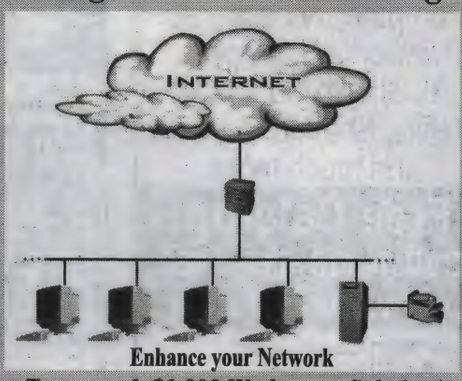


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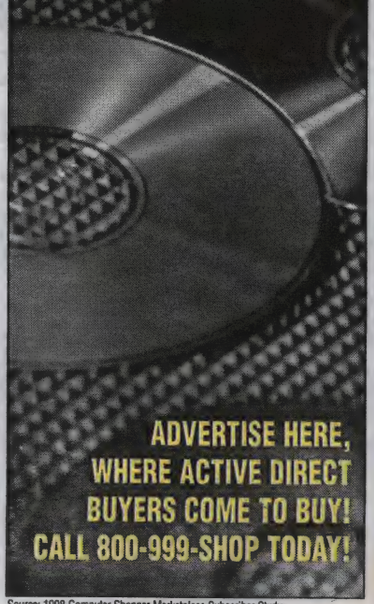
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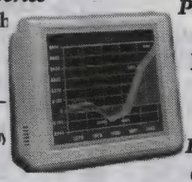
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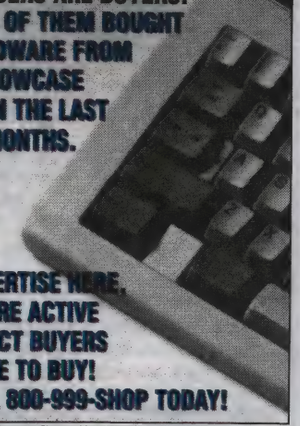
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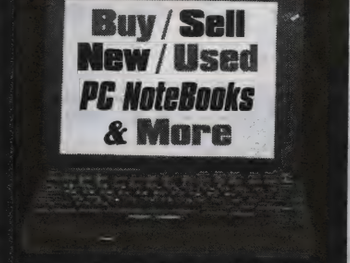


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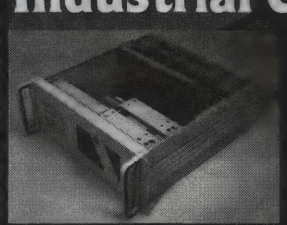
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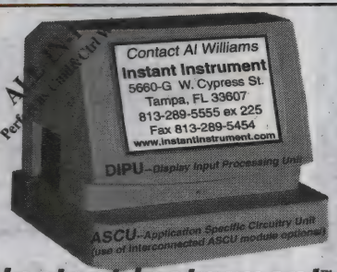
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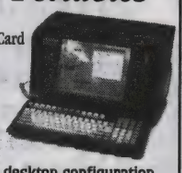
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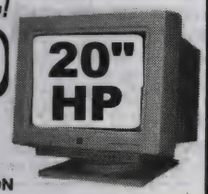
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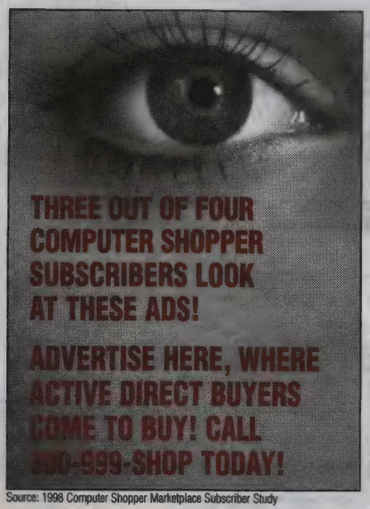
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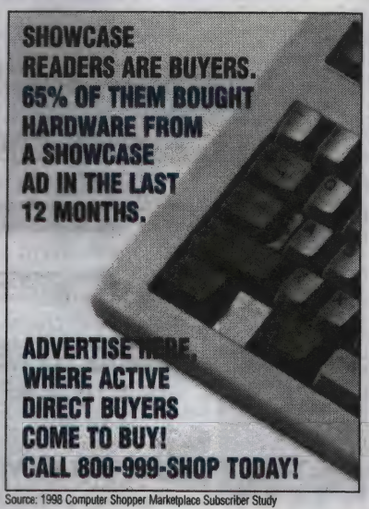
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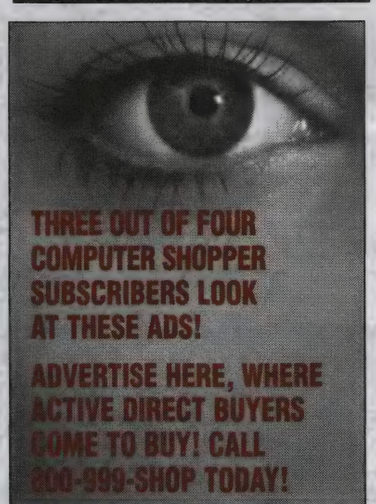
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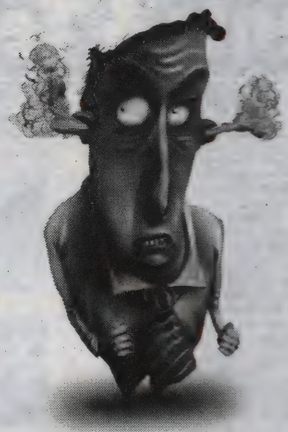
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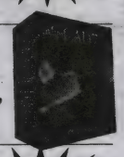




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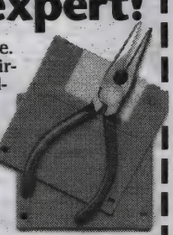
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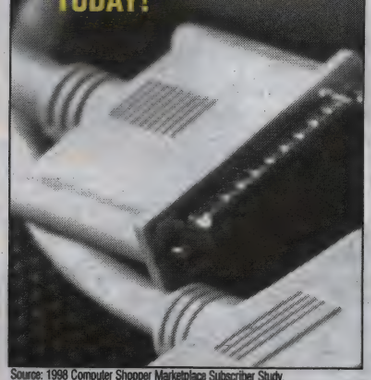
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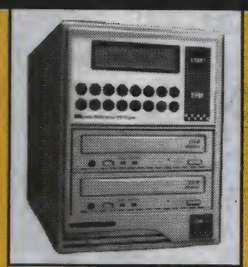
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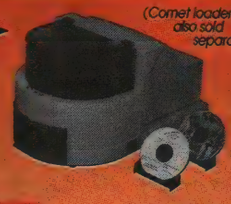
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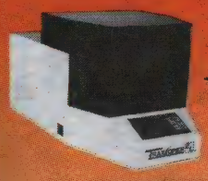
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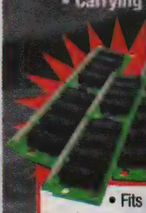
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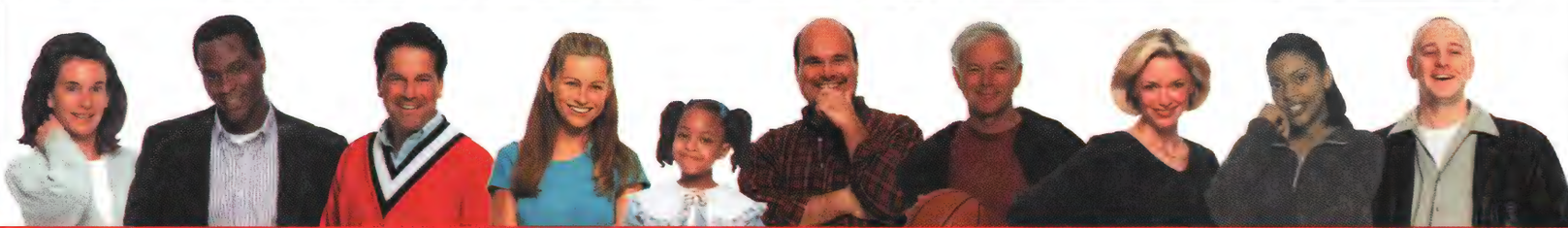




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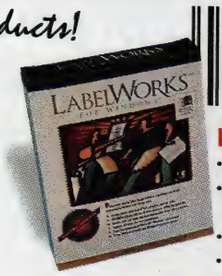
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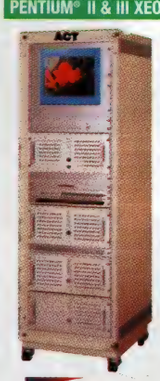


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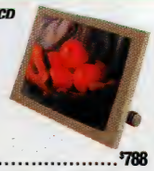
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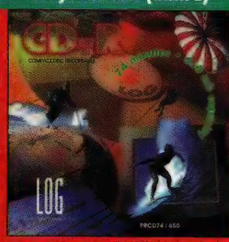
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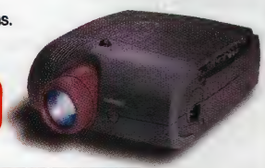
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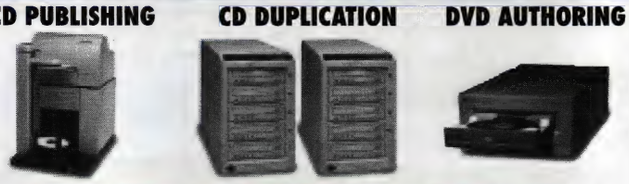
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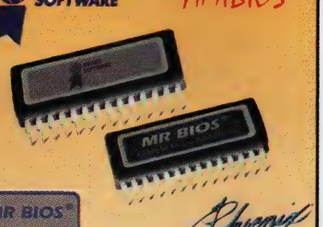
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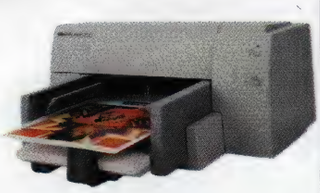
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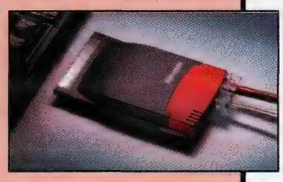
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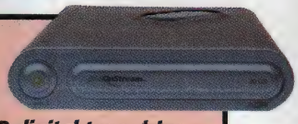
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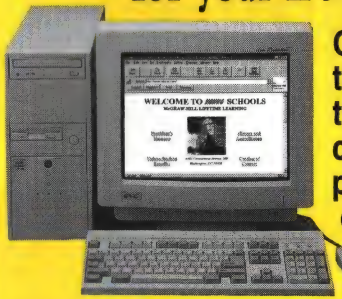
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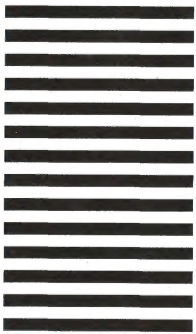
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